

THE READER

A REVIEW OF LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND ART.

No. 73, Vol. III.

Saturday, May 21, 1864.

{ Price Fourpence;
Stamped, Fivepence.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.—NOTICE

IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the NEXT HALF-YEARLY EXAMINATION for MATRICULATION in this University will commence on MONDAY, the 27th of June, 1864. In addition to the Metropolitan Examination, Provincial Examinations will be held at St. Cuthbert's College, Ushaw; Stonyhurst College; Owen's College, Manchester; Queen's College, Liverpool; and the Town Hall, Leeds.

Every Candidate is required to transmit his certificate of age to the Registrar (Burlington House, London, W.) at least fourteen days before the commencement of the Examination.

Candidates who pass the Matriculation Examination are entitled to proceed to the degrees conferred by the University in Arts, Science, and Medicine; and are exempt (1) from the Entrance Examination otherwise imposed on Candidates for admission to the Royal Military College at Sandhurst; (2) from those Examinations of which every Medical Student now commencing his professional studies is required to have passed some one; (3) from the preliminary Examination otherwise imposed by the College of Surgeons on Candidates for its Fellowship; and (4) from those Examinations of which it is necessary for every person entering upon Articles of Clerkship to an Attorney to have passed some one—such as Matriculate in the First Division being entitled to the additional exemption of one year's service.

WILLIAM B. CARPENTER, M.D.,
May 12, 1864. Registrar.

SCIENCE AND ART DEPARTMENT of the COMMITTEE of COUNCIL on EDUCATION, SOUTH KENSINGTON.

LECTURES upon the OBJECTS in the ART-COLLECTIONS of the SOUTH KENSINGTON MUSEUM,
Affording Illustrations of
"The PRINCIPLES of DECORATIVE ART."

A COURSE of LECTURES will be delivered in the Lecture Theatre, on MONDAY AFTERNOONS, the 30th MAY, 6th, 13th, 20th, and 27th JUNE, and 4th JULY, at 4 p.m.

- I.—30th May.—"Terra Cotta and Luca della Robbia Ware." By the Rev. Dr. Rock.
- II.—6th June.—"On the Specimens of Ancient, Mediaeval, and Modern Decorative Sculpture in the Museum." By R. WESTMACOTT, Esq., R.A.
- III.—13th June.—"Objects of Oriental Decoration, and their Application to Modern Uses." By J. W. WILD, Esq.
- IV.—20th June.—"Ancient and Modern Specimens of Book-binding." By the Rev. J. BECK, M.A.
- V.—27th June.—"Architectural Specimens of Coloured and other External Decorations." By W. BURGESS, Esq.
- VI.—4th July.—"Exhibition of Modern Stained Glass, and its Suggestions." By T. GAMBIER PARRY, Esq.
- VII.—11th July.—"The Decorations of Raphael's Loggia in the Vatican." By J. H. POLLEN, Esq., M.A. (late Fellow of Merton College).

Students in Training admitted free; other students and the public by Tickets, which are issued at 3s. 6d. each for the Course, or 1s. each Lecture.

Tickets may be obtained at the Catalogue Sale-stall in the Museum.

By order of the Committee of Council on Education.

ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.—

The ANNIVERSARY DINNER of this Society will take place on MONDAY, the 23rd inst., at WILLIS'S ROOMS, at half-past Six, p.m.

Sir RODERICK I. MURCHISON, K.C.B., in the Chair. Fellows or their friends intending to be present, are requested to leave their names at 15, Whitehall Place, or at Willis's Rooms.

THE ANNIVERSARY MEETING of the LINNEAN SOCIETY of LONDON will be held here on TUESDAY, the 24th of this Month, at Three o'clock precisely, for the Election of a COUNCIL and OFFICERS for the ensuing year.

GEORGE BUSK, SECRETARY.
LINNEAN SOCIETY, Burlington House, Piccadilly,
10th May, 1864.

RAY SOCIETY: ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION.

ONE GUINEA.—Dr. GÜNTHER on "THE REPTILES OF BRITISH INDIA," imp. 4to., with 26 PLATES, will soon be ready for issue to the Subscribers for the year 1863.

The SUBSCRIPTION LIST for this VOLUME will be closed on the 31st instant.

LADIES and GENTLEMEN desirous of joining the Society can do so on applying to the Secretary.

H. T. STANTON, F.L.S., F.G.S.,
MOUNTSFIELD, LEWISHAM, S.E. SECRETARY.
May 10th, 1864.

ETHNOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—THE

GENERAL ANNIVERSARY MEETING of this Society, for the Election of the Officers and Council for the ensuing year, and for other Business, will be held on Tuesday, the 24th instant, at 4, St. Martin's Place, Trafalgar Square. The Chair to be taken at 4 o'clock.

An Extra Meeting of the Society, for the reading of papers, will be held the same Evening at 8 o'clock.

THOMAS WRIGHT, } HONORARY
FRANCIS GALTON, } SECRETARIES.

EDITORIAL OR OTHER LITERARY

ENGAGEMENT IN INDIA.—A Literary Gentleman (M.A.) of considerable experience is open to accept an engagement in India. The advertiser is in his prime, in vigorous health, and unmarried. His experience has been varied, and having embraced editorial duties in connexion with a work of standing, is such as to fit him for a similar appointment. The highest references can be given. Address, "Editor," care of Messrs. C. MITCHELL & Co., "Newspaper Press Directory Office," Red Lion Court, Fleet Street, E.C.

WANTED, THE ZOOLOGIST, previous to 1863. Apply, stating condition, to H. H., the Library, Buntingford.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS.—The

EXHIBITION of the ROYAL ACADEMY is now Open. Admittance (from Eight till Seven), ONE SHILLING. Catalogue, One Shilling.

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The Thirtieth ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of this Society was held on the 11th May, C. D. PRESTON BRUCE, Esq., in the Chair.

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30	£1000	£24 8 4	£12 4 2
40	£1000	£31 10 0	£15 15 0

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30	£1000	£48 0 0	£24 0 0	£12 4 2
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20	£1000	£47 0 0	£23 10 0	£9 13 4
30	£1000	£54 0 0	£27 0 0	£12 4 2
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1856	222,279	72,781	821,061
1861	360,130	135,974	1,311,905
1863	522,107	143,940	1,566,434

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THE READER.

21 MAY, 1864.

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THE READER.

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THE READER.

SATURDAY, MAY 21, 1864.

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THE LITERARY FUND DINNER.

THE Literary Fund Dinner in St. James's Hall on Wednesday last was one of the most successful meetings that have been held by the Corporation since its foundation. It was a becoming act of the Prince of Wales to select such an occasion for his first appearance as the Chairman of a public dinner; and he performed the duties of the office very gracefully. His speech in proposing the toast of the evening was as follows:—

I have now the honour to propose the most important toast of the evening: it is "Prosperity to the Royal Literary Fund." Although the most important, it is, nevertheless, the toast upon which, perhaps, I can say least. Certainly, I can give you no new information, as every one here present knows better than I do the character of this Institution. Still, it is right that I should venture to offer a few remarks on the working of this Society. You are all aware, gentlemen, of the immense advantages which have been derived from it in support of Literature and Science. One of its principal features is that it is not limited to our own countrymen, but is often extended to literary men of all nations; so that we may feel proud to think that, by our timely assistance, we not only advance the literature of our own country, but that of other nations. In this way many eminent men who would otherwise be incapacitated from carrying on their labours, and from making their talents known to the world, are enabled to do so. The second important feature is the secrecy with which this timely aid is given—a secrecy so sacredly observed that, in the whole number of cases, which amount to 1645 since the foundation of this Corporation in the year 1790, there is not a single instance of any indiscretion having been committed; and, if cases have been brought to light at all, it has only been through the acknowledgment of the literary men thus assisted, who have been anxious to express their gratitude. I ought here to mention the name of a distinguished man of letters whose loss must be deeply deplored in all literary circles. I allude to Mr. Thackeray. I allude to him not so much on account of his works, for they are standard works, but because he was an active member of your Committee, and always ready to open his purse for the relief of literary men struggling with

difficulties. Gentlemen, some of those here present do not, perhaps, know that in France, since 1857, an institution similar to ours, and founded by M. Thenard, has been in existence for the benefit of scientific men only, and that a few days ago M. Champfleury, a distinguished writer, proposed to found a literary society adopting some of our principles. It is to be hoped that these two societies may be one day amalgamated, or, at least, may form sister literary funds; and, if administered on our model, I think we may augur for the new institution a large measure of success. We shall at all times be most happy to enter into communication with it and show it the result of our long experience, and of the unwearied zeal and exertion of the officers of this Corporation. I will not detain you much longer, gentlemen; but I cannot sit down without bringing back to your recollection the deep interest which my dear and lamented father took in everything connected with Literature and Science, and particularly in the labours of this Society. Nobody has forgotten that the second time he spoke in public in this country was as Chairman of the Literary Fund dinner; and we all, I am convinced, deeply regret that the speeches made on that occasion were not reported at full length, as every word falling from those lips could not fail to command universal admiration. Gentlemen, let us drink "Prosperity to the Royal Literary Fund."

With this little address, well and modestly spoken, and the references in which to the late Prince Consort and Mr. Thackeray were most fitting, and were received with particular satisfaction by the audience, the young Chairman acquitted himself of the main portion of the evening's duties; and, before the evening closed, the Treasurer of the Corporation was able to announce that the meeting—evidently to the eye a very brilliant one—had also been one of the most productive known in the annals of the Fund. The sum collected during the evening, in donations and subscriptions, amounted to £2000, including her Majesty's annual donation of 100 guineas, and a donation of the same amount from the Prince of Wales.

The meeting, as we have said, and as had been anticipated from the time when it was known that the Prince of Wales was to preside at it, was an unusually brilliant one. On the right of the Prince sat the Duke of Cambridge, Earl Russell, the Belgian Minister, the Marquis of Salisbury, Viscount Hardinge, the Bishop of St. David's, Lord Dynevor, Lord Egerton of Tatton, Lord Houghton, Lord Claud Hamilton, Sir John Pakington, and Admiral Sir A. Milne; and, on the left of the Prince, Earl Stanhope (the President of the Institution), the Lord Primate of Ireland, the Duke of St. Albans, the Marquis of Clanricarde, Earl de Grey and Ripon, the Lord in Waiting, Viscount Sydney, Lord Broughton, Lord Ebury, Lord Talbot de Malahide, the Right Hon. Sir E. Cardwell, Sir Charles Phipps, and General Knollys. At the six general tables sat nearly five hundred guests, among whom were our most eminent publishers, and many well-known representatives of the Church, the Universities, Science, and Literature. The galleries were crowded with ladies looking down upon the proceedings.

If one might venture on a remark or two of a critical nature in connexion with a meeting so brilliant and successful, the following are perhaps those that would have most naturally suggested themselves to one present:—

In the first place, numerous as were the men of letters present at the dinner, and of great distinction as were some among them, the proportion of this element was decidedly under what might have been expected. Allowing for all the many reasons that might determine absence on such an occasion—accident, preoccupation, the habitual disinclination of quiet persons to public dinners, or meetings of any kind—one would still have to seek for some further and more special reasons why so many names that one could run over in one's memory as either of very great or of considerable note in the London world of letters were not found in the list of the guests. The absence of a few might be accounted for by recollecting that some time

ago they had expressed dissatisfaction with the organization and management of the Fund, and by reflecting that, though still members of the Corporation, this dissatisfaction might remain sufficiently strong to keep them away from even so important a celebration of the anniversary of the Corporation as that of Wednesday. This, however, would not account for many of the absences that might have been noted. The truth is—and it seems a pity that it is the truth—that very many of our British men of letters are not members of the Corporation. Why it should be so does not well appear. The Fund, in its present state of organization, and with every allowance for any reasonable change whereby it may be improved, is a most admirable and useful institution, which ought to recommend itself to all our men of letters as such, and which could hardly fail to recommend itself to them, if the nature of its operations were known. True to its avowed purpose of "interfering, as far as it may, between the meritorious and those calamities against which no rank of merit can be always a security," the Fund has, in many hundreds of instances since its foundation, given efficient assistance, in the shape of money-votes, ranging in amount from £10 or £20 upwards to £80 or £100, to authors in distress. Though the records of its benevolences are scrupulously withheld from the public, one hears enough privately, in connexion with individual cases where the persons concerned have themselves made no concealment of their obligation, to know for certain that among those indebted to the Fund for such timely help have been men and women of real genius, upon whom, by the eager vote of their fellows in the literary world, the help, even had it been greater, would have been declared to be most fitly bestowed. Recollecting how many secret instances of distress among persons dependent on literary exertion one comes across every month for oneself, and how difficult it is by any mere private machinery to arrange for their relief, one might think that all our men and women of letters would be glad to know of the existence of such an institution as the Literary Fund, charging itself with the cognisance of such cases, and bringing revenues collected over a wide area to bear upon them, and that it would be accounted almost a duty by such persons, while themselves in any tolerable circumstances, to belong to the Institution as regular annual subscribers. Were the Society thus supported by the numerous class to whom it more directly appeals by its very name, it might take a yet wider development, and might, by new arrangements, act a part towards as much of that long-desiderated "Organization of Literature" as is at present practicable. But, though many of the class in question do support the Institution, and know it as an institution performing useful functions, it has been indebted hitherto for its funds, in perhaps a larger degree, to persons not belonging to the literary class in the ordinary sense of the phrase, but of independent means and position, and interested in literature as such persons are when they are also persons of taste and culture. This appears from the published lists of the members and benefactors of the Corporation. To cite individuals whom these lists prove incidentally to have been pre-eminent for the regularity with which they have attended to the claims of literary merit in distress would hardly be proper; but we will take one as a type. The Earl of Ellenborough in this present year makes his thirty-eighth donation—the list of his donations (the largest we have observed) going back to the year 1825, without the interruption of a single year, and with a double donation in one of the years. In this creditable recollectiveness of the peculiar claims of the Literary Fund among our many public institutions there are many persons of rank, or of name in public life and commerce, not far behind the Earl. The Corporation, indeed, includes so large a number of these persons, both in the list of its office-bearers

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and in the list of its members, that one may say that the dinner of Wednesday last was all the fairer a representation of the present constitution of the body on account of its *not* counting a greater proportion of men of letters than it did among its guests.

Will it seem hypercritical to remark, in connexion with so brilliant a meeting of intellectual men and men of public distinction, that it would have been more enjoyable if the speeches had been more audible? This is a remark that might be made about public dinners generally. At almost every such dinner, if its dimensions are at all considerable, speakers who make themselves heard throughout the room are the exception, and most of the speakers make themselves heard so ill that half of those present only see them gesticulating, and have to take their sentiments on trust. At such a meeting as the Literary Fund Dinner, considering who were present and who were the speakers, one would have expected the absence of this fault. But not a few of the speakers, including some of those that one would have liked best to hear, and that one would have fancied fittest by their habits to make themselves heard, were far from audible. The Prince and the Duke of Cambridge were about the most audible of all. Among so many eminent men one could not help fancying how much greater effect would have been produced by a Mr. Spurgeon or a Dr. Guthrie standing up and uttering a few sentences in the fashion of which they are easy masters. Now whatever is worth doing is worth doing well; and, as audibility is the first and paramount requisite of speaking, without which all else is vain, it is really to be wished that those of our eminent men who are in the habit of being called upon to speak on such public occasions would attend to this little matter. It is not to be expected that every one of them should be able to fill Westminster Hall with his voice, like an adjutant drilling a battalion; but a public dinner of 500 guests ought not to be beyond any one's compass if he would take a little trouble with his utterance.

If one's comments were to extend to the toasts at the dinner, and to the speeches proposing or acknowledging these toasts, it would have to be remarked that the proportion of the strictly literary element was even less there than in the composition of the assembly, and certainly less than it has been on former occasions. This was partly inevitable from the very circumstance which gave the meeting its extraordinary interest, and which, to some extent, affected the style of its proceedings. Perhaps, however, it would have been gratifying to the sense of fitness if, in such a meeting, by a little extension of the proceedings, Literature had been enabled to say a little more for itself in detail. That Earl Stanhope, both as a man of letters and as President of the Corporation, should have taken the lead among the speakers after the Prince and the Duke of Cambridge was quite as it should have been; that Earl Russell and Lord Houghton, both of them Vice-Presidents of the Corporation, are men whose words would be esteemed weighty and valuable in the most intellectual assembly in the land need not be said; and there could not have been a more acceptable representative of our national literature as a whole, if one were to speak for all, than Mr. Anthony Trollope. But, in an assembly where such men as Dean Milman, Dean Stanley, the Master of Trinity, the Bishop of St. David's, Mr. Helps, Mr. Herman Merivale, and Professor Sedgwick were present, it might have been contrived, with advantage to the interest, and with the addition of a touch or two to the proceedings that would have seemed characteristic, that some one or other of them should have been called upon to say a few words. Speechifying at public dinners is what such men mostly have had enough of for their own taste; but, where they are present, and can be made to do duty in a representative capacity, it is right that they should be seized on. And, so long as there is speechifying, it ought to be as exactly cha-

racteristic of the real nature of the occasion as possible, and, to this end, ought to be got from the most representative persons, will they, nill they. What is the use of having a Dean Milman, or a Dean Stanley, or a Master of Trinity, within the same room with one at a Literary Fund Dinner if he is not made to get up and say something about literature that one would note and be likely to remember?

CURRENT LITERATURE.

WOMEN IN FRANCE IN THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY.

Woman in France during the Eighteenth Century.
By Julia Kavanagh. (Smith, Elder, and Co.)

THIS is a creditable and careful compilation; and, though it contains little that is new to any one well versed in French history and memoirs, yet it is the first attempt that has been made in our language to give us a complete account of woman in France during the eighteenth century. The female authors who wrote on France during the past generation were, for the most part, either ignorant of the language, literature, and history of France—like the late Lady Morgan—or mere servile translators of French works—like the late Miss Pardoe. In the generation antecedent to the past there were more accomplished female labourers in this field. Miss Berry, the friend of Horace Walpole, was exceedingly well acquainted with French life and literature. She possessed leisure and fortune, and mixed in the very best society, and has left us one of the most instructive and amusing works extant in her "Comparative View of Social Life in England and France," published nearly forty years ago.

Miss Kavanagh does not possess the breadth, vigour, and spirit of generalization and knowledge of society or of the world which distinguished Miss Berry; but she has been a careful and painstaking student of French literature and memoirs, and she has judiciously compiled and commonplacéd the results of considerable reading and research. Her style, too, is clear, correct, and equal. Miss Kavanagh has also the good sense and good taste not to obtrude her own personality on the reader's attention. Her own private opinions, whether on politics, religion, or literature, are kept in the background, and she deals with the matter in hand as a mere expositor of what she has read or winnowed out of books where the authorities are opposite or conflicting. It cannot be said that an author of this kind is either original or profound. She is neither the one nor the other; but she has read up, for the purpose of this compilation, with industry and intelligence, and there are few mistakes in a thickly-printed volume amounting to nearly 500 pages. There is, however, one defect in the work. The list of authors consulted is placed at the end of the table of contents. It numbers nearly a hundred individual names and authorities, which, instead of being placed at the bottom of the pages, verifying each particular statement, are thus huddled together, without any regard to subject, to country, or to chronology. Some of these names, too, are misspelt. Thus we have "Chatauroux" and "Saint Beuve" instead of "Châteauroux" and "Sainte Beuve"—a printer's error, doubtless, which we are far from charging on the authoress, but an error, nevertheless, which needs to be corrected in a future edition.

Miss Kavanagh seems to be of opinion that the influence of woman in France is chiefly synchronous with the era of the "Grand Monarque," and that the cynical and sceptical tone of writing dates from that period. To our thinking, however, the influence of woman on public affairs and literature dates from the time of Henry IV., while the cynical and sceptical tone of writing was much antecedent to that era. A naïveté and pretended simplicity, as well as a sceptical and mocking tone, are traceable in

the verses of Clement Marot, who was twice imprisoned for heresy by the bigots of the Sorbonne. Even thus early in French history and literature, a poet imprisoned in the Châtelet made verses against his judges in the spirit of a Voltaire, a Béranger, and a Paul Louis Courrier. Jean Baptiste Rousseau, himself a poet, has well characterized the mordant genius of Clement Marot:—

"Par vous en France épîtres triolets,
Rondeau, chansons, ballades, virelais,
Gente épigramme et plaisante satire,
Ont pris naissance, en sorte qu'on peut dire
De Prométhée hommes sont émanés,
Et de Marot joyeux contes sont nés."

During the reign of Charles VIII., when Erasmus taught in Paris, he found spirits more sceptical and cynical than himself, not only among men of letters, but among diplomatists, lawyers, magistrates, and physicians. In military, political, and administrative French life there were then, as now, found, though not in such numbers, *frondeurs*, sceptics, and cynics. Among these was Castelnau, who was five times ambassador in England, and of whom our own Elizabeth, no mean judge, said, "Castelnau est digne de manier une plus grande charge." Philip de Comines, Rabelais, the French Lucian and Aristophanes, Brantôme, Montaigne, Tavaignes, La Noun, President Jeanin, and the great Sully were all prior to the time of the "Grand Monarque"—some of them, indeed, were contemporary with Francis I., Francis II., Charles IX., Henry IV., and Louis XIII.; and these men, by their mingled sagacity, sarcasm, reasoning, and reflective powers—exhibited in their writings and memoirs—prepared the way for De Retz, Bayle, Voltaire, Rousseau, and the Encyclopædists and Economists, from Quesnay and Gournay down to Turgot and Morellet. No doubt these men of the era of Louis XIV. and Louis XV., with the women in whose salons they met, did much to forward the movement of 1789; but the impulse had been given long before the wars of the Fronde or the League, and may certainly be dated from as early a point as the days of Francis I. De Tocqueville, and Boulainvilliers long before him, demonstrated that liberty of speech and of action, that a spirit of local independence, and of inquiry, criticism, and complaint, existed among our neighbours more than three centuries ago; thus proving the remark made by Madame de Staël in her "Considérations sur la Révolution Française," that it is liberty which is old and ancient, and despotism which is comparatively modern and new. Though, however, the inquiring and criticizing impulses were given to the French mind long before the days of the Economists and Encyclopædists, yet it may be conceded to Miss Kavanagh that, to use her own phrase, "it was chiefly in the eighteenth century that women exercised to its fullest extent the great and remarkable influence they always possessed in France."

It is also true, as Miss Kavanagh states, that the influence of woman was increased by three queens-regent; but, in the reign of Louis XIV., it was through the king only that woman could dominate. The influence of his mistresses was personal, like their lover's government, and it was, therefore, only through the head of the state that the weaker sex could dominate. But, at the close of Louis XIV.'s reign, the court and the nation were weary of a power which had lasted much too long. Louis's reign ended amidst gloom and reverses; and we learn from the pages of the caustic St. Simon and the minute Dangeau, who, for six-and-thirty years, inscribed in his journal the most trivial and the most important facts, what manner of man Louis was. St. Simon lets us behind the scenes, and shows us the heroes and heroines as they were. The "Grand Monarque" appears less imposing in the memoirs of his own time than in this work of Miss Kavanagh. Brienne tells us he was a glutton, and injured his teeth, his stomach, and his general health by excessive eating; and, from the details furnished by Dangeau and St.

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Simon, we come to the conclusion that this much-vaunted age was really an abased and feculent age—a "*sexta temporum*," to use the words of Erasmus. No idea can be formed of the character of Louis XIV. from the panegyrics of Voltaire. It is from the pages of Dangeau, Brienne, Elizabeth Charlotte, Duchess of Orleans, mother of the Regent—who introduced *sauer kraut*, salad dressed with lard, and made the king eat omelettes of red-herrings*—that we really learn the character of Louis XIV. A false glare has been everywhere cast on this reign by historiographers and courtly writers, and from the spell of their influences Miss Kavanagh is not wholly free. The illusion is destroyed in reading the memoirs of which we have been speaking, and more especially the memoirs of Charlotte Elizabeth, a woman of acute and superior mind, who lived in the midst of a hollowness and hypocrisy and a moral miasma which she has honestly exposed. From Dangeau, Hainault, La Beaumelle, and Voltaire (though he speaks contemptuously of Dangeau) have all drawn useful facts or curious anecdotes as to Louis XIV. The Chronicler tells us how his Majesty expressed his disapprobation of those attached to the Court who did not receive the sacrament at Easter, what debts he paid out of his privy purse, what pensions he gave to brides, what noblemen he reprehended for irreligious behaviour at mass, what counsels he gave to men of sixty-four having already children by two marriages and who desired to marry again, what days he walked in the royal garden, and what days—rare condescension!—he allowed his courtier attendants to pluck the fruit. The conduct of Louis XIV. to the wounded Duchess of Burgundy, to Samuel Bernard the banker, to the Duchess of Grammont, though abominably bad, does not render him so contemptible in our estimation as his general dissimulation and deceit, his utter heartlessness and indifference to the feelings of others. His treatment, before the whole Court, of a domestic servant guilty of the heinous crime of pocketing a small cake, showed a paltry mind. We are tempted even to doubt from the pages of St. Simon that Louis XIV. possessed that superior ability or sound sense so often vaunted. In speaking of the prodigalities of Louis XIV., and the straits to which he was reduced before he had recourse to Samuel Bernard, Miss Kavanagh calls Bernard "the rich Jewish traitant." There is no authority that we are aware making Bernard of the Jewish faith. He was a Christian, though an indifferent one, and the son of a celebrated professor of painting. The descendants of Bernard intermarried with the families of Molé and Cossé Brissac, which would have been impossible had they professed Judaism.

Of the Duchess of Maine (whom our authoress wrongly calls Madame du Maine) grand-daughter of the great Condé, and sister of the Duke of Bourbon, who, in 1692, married the club-footed Duke of Maine, the first-fruit of the doubly-adulterous amours of Louis XIV. and Madame de Montespan and her circle, Miss Kavanagh gives in the main an accurate account; but, in speaking of her famous *femme de chambre*, Mademoiselle de Launay, afterwards Madame de Staël, she does not sufficiently dwell on the humiliating and disagreeable scenes which this very clever woman was obliged to endure. It was not merely that she was placed in a room without a fireplace, but the other *femme de chambre* mocked and laughed at her, and she was obliged to undergo the most painful humiliations. These are related with a clearness and ingenuousness very delightful, and might have been more largely drawn on by our authoress. The Duchess of Maine, or "La Poupée du Sang," as she was called, thought herself a demi-goddess—thought that her husband, in consequence of the will of the "Grand Monarque," inherited the right to reign *de par le Dieu*. To deprive the Duke of Orleans of the Regency, and to confer it

on her club-footed husband, was one of the purposes of La Poupée. It was with this view she joined the conspiracy of Cellamare.

Miss Kavanagh, though introducing the name of Cardinal Polignac into this part of her book, does not announce, according to the scandalous chronicles of the time, that the Cardinal was the Duchess of Maine's too favoured lover. The intrigues, the passions, the frivolities, the weaknesses of the whole circle of men and women assembled at the Duchess of Maine's are painted in the pages of La Delaunay. There we find Malasieu and Genest, the Duke de Nevers and Hainault; Destouches, ambassador and poet; the Abbé Chaulieu, in love with Mademoiselle Delaunay at eighty; and M. de St. Aulaire, who was admitted a member of the Academy for his impromptu quatrain for the Duchess of Maine on the system of Descartes and Newton:—

"Bergère, detachons-nous
De Newton, de Descartes:
Les deux espèces de fous
N'ont jamais vu le dessous

Des Cartes,
Des Cartes."

An attractive piquancy is the chief characteristic of Mademoiselle Delaunay's style. She initiates us into the best and most literary society of the time—Fontenelle, La Motte, and that clever M. St. Aulaire before alluded to, who, being requested by Madame de Maine to go to confession, replied to her—

"Ma Bergère, j'ai beau chercher,
Je n'ai rien sur ma conscience;
De grâce, faites-moi pécher,
Après je ferai pénitence."

On the Pompadour and her influence Miss Kavanagh largely discourses, but, strange to say, does not appear to have consulted the memoirs of Madame du Hausset, her *femme de chambre*, a person of intelligence and talent who was induced by unprosperous fortunes to accept the place of first *femme de chambre* to Jeanne Antoinette Poisson, the wife of Le Mornand d'Étioles and mistress of Louis XV., afterwards Marchioness of Pompadour.

To Marmontel and Duclos Miss Kavanagh is unjust. For a natural style, not excluding elegance and polish, the memoirs of Marmontel are only inferior to the "Confessions" of Rousseau. There is a freshness about Marmontel's account of his earlier years which is quite enchanting. His descriptions of his interview with Massillon, and of the attempts of the Jesuits to get him into their Society, are perfect gems in their way. In no work is the Parisian society of the eighteenth century better portrayed.

We may say of the "Mémoires Secrètes sur le Régence de Louis XIV. et de Louis XV." of Duclos, which Miss Kavanagh does not appear to have consulted, that they are written in an exceedingly clear and concise, but somewhat dry style. No one knew better how to paint the vices and to strip off the pretended virtues of his countrymen than Duclos, deputy of Brittany and historiographer of France; and, of all his works, the one we have named most discloses his especial talent.

Miss Kavanagh also considerably underrates the literary ability of Madame d'Épinay. Her memoirs have now been nearly half a century published, and they give us a much better idea of the morals, manners, mode of life, thought, and action in France than any other work. In speaking of the Receiver-General Franceuil, with whom Madame d'Épinay was so intimate, Miss Kavanagh erroneously writes the name Francoeil. She also judges the conduct of the morbid and diseased but eloquent Rousseau too favourably in his intercourse with Madame d'Épinay.

We have not space to touch on the characters and careers of Madame de Mailly, Madame de Vintimille, Madame de Châteauroux, Madame du Deffand, and her companion Mademoiselle de Lespinasse. Neither can we dwell on those of Rousseau, Voltaire, and Madame du Châtelet.

We pass on to the time of Madame Roland, whose sufferings as wife, woman, and mother

have become matter of history. The memoirs of Madame Roland, written in six weeks, were composed during the period of her captivity, when she was environed by everything that could render life loathsome and imprisonment almost unendurable; yet they breathe an admirable air of serenity and fortitude, and of that purity and stainlessness of character which she exhibited during her short thirty-nine years of a troubled existence. On these memoirs Miss Kavanagh largely draws; and certainly the honesty, sincerity, courage, and enthusiasm of Madame Roland entitle her to a full hearing. She was a person of great sweetness and tenderness of disposition, as well as learned and strong-minded; but she was also proud and stoical, and not without a share of female vanity, and therefore not fit to be a political leader or adviser.

Miss Kavanagh much underrates the general abilities and military capacity of that able and versatile man Dumouriez, and, *per contra*, considerably overrates the capacity and influence of Madame de Genlis. *A propos* of this lady we may state that Miss Kavanagh does not acknowledge her obligations to her, the author of the "Précis de l'Histoire des Femmes Françaises les plus célèbres," published in 1811; nor does she state that her own history and description of *Parfilage* and the sums gained at it is very much a translation from Madame de Genlis. These, however, are trifles. On the whole the book is carefully compiled, and well put together, and it must enhance the reputation of Miss Kavanagh. V. K.

MANHATTAN'S NOVEL.

Marion. By "Manhattan." Only Authorized Edition. Three Volumes. (Saunders, Otley, & Co.)

A STORY is told of an old lady who remembered with great distinctness that her father was very intimate with "Junius," but she had, unfortunately, forgotten his name. A recent work, reviewed in these columns, gave an account of the career of "Manhattan," omitting the same interesting particular. But, whoever "Manhattan" may be, it is fortunate for England that he is not an Englishman. A British fleet, suddenly sailing to New York and bombarding the city, could scarcely be a more decided *casus belli* than the projection of these volumes upon American sensibilities. All that Marryat, Mrs. Trollope, Dickens, and other candid foreigners have written concerning the country may be regarded as flattering in the highest degree after this picture of the New-Yorkers by one of themselves. Doubtless there are various ways of looking at life anywhere, and a traveller's impressions are formed, for the most part, from the associations among which he is thrown. Had Mrs. Beecher Stowe, for instance, instead of being deluged with dukes and duchesses, poets, philosophers, and courtiers, been allowed to find her way about as she could and take her chance of seeing things from the outside, she might have come to much the same conclusion as M. Assolant and others—that London is a place consisting principally of back streets and low lodgings; that London dinners cost about eighteenpence, and are partaken of in unclean taverns; and that the London mode of spending the evening is to go to some wretched concert-room, drink gin, and listen to negro melodies. Even among residents the same place will present a different aspect according to the point of view; and, making this allowance, we may presume that "Manhattan's" pictures of life in New York some twenty years ago are painted with a reasonable amount of truth. But it would be too much to suppose that the society of the place, either then or now, was made up entirely of such persons as the author has selected for his heroes.

It would be difficult to find so many rascals portrayed elsewhere upon any one canvas. Marion Monck is almost the only approach to a respectable person among

* "Mémoires sur la Cour de Louis XIV. et de la Régence." Paris: Ponthieu, 1823.)

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them; and even he is not troubled with too many scruples, but takes kindly, during a considerable portion of the three volumes, to a decidedly disreputable kind of life. The first few chapters are naturally elementary; but, directly the work gets so far advanced as—if we may be allowed the figure—to run alone, it at once takes a step in the wrong direction, and the improprieties fairly set in. Marion gets a situation at an early age in a rich merchant's office, and the rich merchant's wife immediately makes love to him, the rich merchant himself being a profligate of no common order. How the latter purchases a beautiful girl, a mere child, from her parents, and educates her until she is sufficiently refined to be his companion, is told in such direct language as one seldom hears out of a police report. Indeed this is a strong peculiarity of the author's general manner. Most persons consider it rather candid to call a spade a spade; but "Manhattan" would regard such a concession as a compromise with fact: he would describe the instrument as a piece of iron with a wooden handle, so anxious is he that everybody shall know exactly what he means. Mr. Nordheim, the profligate merchant, has a partner, Mr. Granville, who is not profligate, but who errs on the side of pride, and makes up in selfishness and ingratitude for the want of other weaknesses. His younger brother, Tom Granville, is one of the virtuous characters in the book—he merely leaves his wife to go and live with Clara Norris, Mr. Nordheim's purchased property, and commits every kind of excess consistent with being a thoroughly amusing companion to persons not too particular. He even goes so far, when appointed to a consulship in France to retrieve him from ruin, as to introduce his mistress into society as his wife—a proceeding which soon puts an end to his public employment. Another virtuous character in the book is Count Falsechinski. He is merely a ruthless gambler, who accumulates an immense fortune for the purpose of revenge, and, in furtherance of his plans, marries a girl for the sake of her money. He, however, is grateful as well as revengeful, and is kind to Marion, who has been kind to him. Colonel Macneill is another of the characters whom the reader is requested to admire. He is such an unscrupulous man of business as to have almost the reputation of a swindler. However, he loses his money, and, with the little he manages to scrape together to retire upon, he does some good, being especially kind to a little boy and girl who are his children, and to a lady who is their mother, but is not his wife. Mr. O'Donnell, an Irish adventurer, is painted in more candid colours. Nobody ever knew his antecedents; but he was supposed to have been a nobleman's servant, from the fact that, when addressed suddenly as "James," he was known to have been thrown off his guard, and to answer "Coming, my lord," to his great subsequent confusion. This man is drawn with great care, and is, perhaps, the most original creation in the book. He is a thorough and utter rogue; but his depredations are made so amusing that it is only towards the end of his career, when he commits a dull piece of rascality, that you can see the author is beginning to be displeased with him. One of the virtuous persons we must not omit to mention is Mr. James Gordon Bennett of the *New York Herald*, a gentleman who, if the character given of him by "Manhattan" be a true one, must have been strangely misunderstood in Europe up to the present time.

The ladies conduct themselves a little better than the gentlemen; but there is not much to choose between the two. Those who do not otherwise err are flighty and heartless for the most part. Thus Miss Granville, for loving whom Marion loses his appointment and is ruined until nearly the end of the book, coolly throws him over for a rich husband selected by Papa, and is quite unaware that she has done wrong in breaking the engagement. The most conspicuous case of real affection in the book

is that of Miss Benson. She follows her lover in the face of every difficulty—but it is to save her reputation. Mrs. Nordheim, whose secret love for Marion is characterized by self-denial and generosity, is the only pleasant character among the one sex, and Mr. Wilson, Mr. Granville's clerk, whom she marries from pique, and raises to the position of a partner, is perhaps the only thoroughly estimable character in the work; the hero might be another, but he is not strongly marked, and his virtues may be mostly comprised in good feeling and high spirit. It must be said for the author, however, that, if he makes his bad characters agreeable in life, he brings them generally to an untimely end. One dies from injuries received from a man whose sister he has insulted at the theatre; a second is knocked down by a friend after leaving a gambling-house, with a supposititious large sum of money; a third dies of *delirium tremens*; one runs away and is never more heard of; one or two run away and are heard of more than need be; nearly everybody, in fact, comes to grief, except the hero of the story and Clara Norris, who, being about the most depraved person in the book, settles down eventually upon her own property, and moralizes upon the wickedness of the world. Several of the characters reform to a certain extent—that is to say, they leave off their bad ways when they become unprofitable—but it by no means follows that they fare better in consequence. Indeed, in one or two cases, the result is decidedly the reverse. One of the chief charms of the work, in fact, is the apparent unconsciousness of the author that there is anything objectionable in the events he narrates or the persons who enact them. That he gives a preference to morality must be admitted; but his tolerance is so large as to make room for a great many weaknesses against which a conventional prejudice exists. And, apart from the morals of the *dramatis personæ*, their manners are calculated to astonish the weak minds of mere Britishers. We never read a book in which so much miscellaneous refreshment was consumed as in the course of these three volumes. Everybody "liquors up" upon all occasions, and about half of the scenes and conversations take place in "bars." In describing such matters, too, the author is artist enough to use appropriate language—describing one gentleman as doing something "on his own hook," and another as drinking something "to his own cheek." These would be startling expressions in most books, but here they seem quite natural. For the rest, the work has little in common with an ordinary novel. It has no sustained story; but is rather a succession of scenes and adventures in which the same persons are engaged. But it has decided interest, and the persons are real persons, obviously drawn from life. There is not the smallest sign of book-making apparent in all the pages, which contain material enough for half-a-dozen ordinary works of fiction, in which the usual elaboration would be brought to bear. The author's style, rough and ready as it is, has at least the merit of being direct and forcible—of saying a thing as if the author meant it, and describing a thing as if it was true. No book written with such advantages could be unreadable; and, whatever objections may be made to "Marion," there can be none on that score. The reading public may be a little scandalized; but they will certainly pay the work the compliment of perusal. S. L. B.

INDO-CHINESE TRAVELS.

Travels in the Central Parts of Indo-China (Siam), Cambodia, and Laos during the Years 1858, 1859, and 1860. By the late M. Mouhot, French Naturalist. In Two Volumes. With Illustrations. (Murray.)

DID these volumes possess less intrinsic merit than they do the circumstances in which they have been given to the world might well claim the indulgent verdict of

the critic. Their contents have been arranged by M. Charles Mouhot from the materials furnished by the journal, letters, and other papers of his estimable brother, M. Henri Mouhot, who, at the early age of thirty-five, fell a victim to his zeal for scientific knowledge and discovery. M. Henri Mouhot was born at Montbéliard in 1826, of respectable parents, and trained with a view of following his mother's profession of teacher. In this capacity he went to Russia, in 1844, where his strong leaning to the arts and sciences diverted his energies into another channel. The invention of Daguerre turned his attention to photography, which he practised with great success in the dominions of the Czar. The outbreak of the war in the East led to his return to France; and his brother, M. Charles, the editor of these volumes, became the companion of his new travels in Germany, Belgium, and the north of Italy, where "they laboured by means of photography to make known the works of the great masters and the beauties of the country, exercising their profession like real artists." After visiting Holland, they removed to England in 1856, having both married English ladies, relatives of Mungo Park. An English book on Siam which accidentally fell in his way drew the attention of M. Henri to that part of the world; and, his anxiety to visit that country being warmly appreciated by the great Geographical and Zoological Societies of London, he was enabled by their aid to carry out his cherished project, and "quitted his wife, brother, and all his friends, and every advantage of civilization, in order to visit, in the cause of science, regions little known, but where, through much fatigue and danger, the prospect of a glorious future opened itself before him."

"On the 27th of April," says M. H. Mouhot, "I embarked at London in a sailing ship of very modest pretensions in order to put into execution my long-cherished project of exploring the kingdoms of Siam, Cambodia, and Laos, and visiting the tribes who occupy the banks of the great river Mekon." Arrived at Bangkok, the capital of Siam, he was invited to be present at the great dinner which the King of Siam, who is an accomplished *savant* and knows English well, gives every year on his birthday to the European residents in Bangkok. In his account of it he says:—

I was presented by Monseigneur Pallegoix, and his Majesty's reception was kind and courteous. His costume consisted of a pair of large trousers, a short brown jacket of some thin material, and slippers; on his head he wore a little copper helmet like those worn by the naval officers, and at his side a rich sabre. Most of the Europeans in Bangkok were present at the dinner, and enthusiastic toasts were drunk to the health of his Majesty, who, instead of being seated, stood or walked round the table, chewing betel, and addressing some pleasant observation to each of his guests in turn. The repast was served in a vast hall, from whence we could see a platoon of the royal guard, with flags and drums, drawn up in the courtyard. When I went to take leave of the king, he graciously presented me with a little bag of green silk, containing some of the gold and silver coin of the country; a courtesy which was most unexpected, and for which I expressed my gratitude.

M. Mouhot proceeds to give a geographical and historical account of Siam, in which we must not attempt to follow him. Bangkok, the capital, which contains a population of three or four hundred thousand souls, he describes as "The Venice of the East; where, whether bent on business or pleasure, you must go by water. In place of the noise of carriages and horses, nothing is heard but the dip of oars, the songs of sailors, or the cries of the Cipayes (Siamese rowers). The river is the high street and the boulevard, while the canals are the cross streets, along which you glide, lying luxuriously at the bottom of your canoe."

In Siam, Cambodia, and Laos there exists a peculiar institution—that of a second king, slightly inferior to the other, and having a sort of reflected authority, and the title of Wangna—i. e., "the youngest king." His

real position is that of the first subject of his colleague, though he has his court, mandarins, and little army who pay him royal honours. The present Wangna of Siam is legitimate brother of the first king, and a perfect gentleman, writing and speaking English, and living in his palace in European fashion. He is fond of books and scientific researches; and to him also our traveller felt bound to pay his respects. After his visits to the two kings he prepared for his voyage up the river Menam, to visit in the first place Ayuthia, the ancient capital of Siam. Here he was hospitably received by Father Larmandy, a French missionary, who placed his house at the disposal of our traveller, and accompanied him in some of his rambles. Of these the most interesting are the excursions to Mount Phrabat—"a favourite object of pilgrimage among the Siamese, who resort thither yearly in great numbers to adore the sacred footprint of Buddha"—and Mount Patawi, which is the resort of the Laotian pilgrims, as Phrabat is of the Siamese. The view from Patawi he thus describes:—

I went to the extreme north of the mount, where some generous being has kindly had constructed for the shelter of travellers a hall such as is found in many places near pagodas. The view here is indescribably splendid, and I cannot pretend to do justice either with pen or pencil to the grand scenes which here and elsewhere were displayed before my eyes. . . . Beneath my feet was a rich and velvety carpet of brilliant and varied colours, an immense tract of forest, amidst which the fields of rice and the unwooded spots appeared like little streaks of green; beyond, the ground, rising gradually, swells into hills of different elevations; farther still to the north and east, in the form of a semicircle, is the mountain chain of Phrabat, and that of the kingdom of Muang-Lôm; and in the extreme distance those of Korat, fully sixty miles off. All these join one another, and are, in fact, but a single range. But how describe the varieties of form among all these peaks! In one place they seemed to melt into the vapoury rose-tints of the horizon, while nearer at hand the peculiar structure and colour of the rocks bring out more strongly the richness of the vegetation. There, again, are deep shadows, vying with the deep blue of the heaven above; everywhere those brilliant sunny lights, those delicate hues, those warm tones, which make the *tout ensemble* perfectly enchanting. . . . At the sight of this unexpected panorama a cry of admiration burst simultaneously from all mouths. Even my poor companions, generally insensible to the beauties of nature, experienced a moment of ecstasy at the sublimity of the scene. "Oh! di di" (beautiful) cried my young Laotian guide; and, when I asked Kûe what he thought of it, "Oh! master," he replied, in his mixed jargon of Latin, English, and Siamese, "the Siamese see Buddha on a stone (the footprint on Mount Phrabat) and do not see God in these grand things. I am pleased to have been to Patawi."

Our traveller returned to Bangkok, proceeded by sea to Komput, "now the only port of Cambodia," yet boasting only 300 houses at most. At Komput he expected to live cheaply, taxation being light in Cambodia, but was woefully disappointed. "Almost every vice seemed prevalent at Komput—pride, insolence, cheating, cowardice, servility, excessive idleness, are the attributes of this miserable people." The custom-house officers are "licensed beggars." M. Mouhot had, fortunately, letters to the Abbé Hestrest, the head of the foreign mission at Komput, and in the good priest's house he found a welcome refuge. By the abbé he was introduced to the king, then at Komput, who, although the very name of France is full of dread to these poor monarchs, received the French stranger kindly, being satisfied that he had no political designs. He supplied him with carriages for his journey to Udong, the capital, where, on his arrival, he had an interview with the "second king," who was very kind, and invited him to call often. Of Udong he says:—

The houses are built of bamboos or planks, and the market-place, occupied by the Chinese, is as dirty as all the others of which I have made mention. The longest street, or rather the only one, is a mile in length, and in the environs reside

the agriculturists, as well as the mandarins, and other government officers. The entire population numbers about twelve thousand souls.

Our traveller has now reached the regions watered by the great river Makon and the lake of Cambodia; and much interesting information is given by him respecting the races inhabiting the interior of the country, with one of which, "the savage Stiens," a people having no resemblance to their Cambodian or Annamite neighbours, he resided nearly three months. He minutely describes their peculiar manners and customs. The present social and political condition of Cambodia, on the whole, he pronounces deplorable, and he sees no remedy but European conquest for the evils which afflict it. France, he thinks, should seize it and turn to account its splendid resources; but probably France has quite enough on her hands in the neighbouring Cochin China. Its present poor and depopulated state is the result of the incessant wars carried on against it by the adjoining states. That it was formerly a populous, flourishing, and powerful kingdom is clear from the magnificent ruins of which our traveller gives an elaborate description. At Ongko, the ancient capital of Cambodia, he found "ruins of such grandeur, remains of structures which must have been raised at such an immense cost of labour that, at the first view, one is filled with profound admiration, and cannot but ask what has become of this powerful race, so civilized, so enlightened, the authors of these gigantic works? One of these temples—a rival to that of Solomon, and erected by some ancient Michael Angelo—might take an honourable place beside our most beautiful buildings. It is grander than anything left us by Greece or Rome, and presents a sad contrast to the state of barbarism in which the nation is now plunged." Of these interesting remnants of a past civilization, of which we know about as little as of that which has left similar traces in Central America, our traveller gives beautiful drawings; and we must, in passing, mention that these volumes are profusely illustrated by engravings from his drawings and photographs, as well as by a map of the countries through which his route lay. But we must bring to a close our notice of a work which has excited our liveliest interest, which will be highly acceptable to the intelligent public as well as to the lovers of science, and which forms a valuable contribution to our knowledge of the geography, archaeology, and natural history of the "gorgeous East." We cannot afford space to follow the lamented explorer in his journeyings among the mountains of Laos, which are of equal interest with the rest of the book. Near Louang Prabang, the capital of West Laos, he died of fever—a victim, like Mungo Park, to his ardour in the pursuit of scientific knowledge. The last words in his journal are—"Have pity on me, O my God," written with a trembling hand. His two native servants faithfully watched over him to the last, and, after committing his remains to the earth, brought his papers, drawings, and collection of shells, insects, &c., peculiar to those little-known regions to his friends in Bangkok, through whom they reached England.

In an appendix are inserted translations by the traveller of some Chinese tales, a Cambodian vocabulary, and some letters and papers which could not be interwoven in the body of the work. They add not a little to the interest of these volumes.

HUXLEY'S ELEMENTS OF COMPARATIVE ANATOMY.

Lectures on the Elements of Comparative Anatomy. By Thomas Henry Huxley, F.R.S., Professor of Natural History, Royal School of Mines, and Professor of Comparative Anatomy and Physiology to the Royal College of Surgeons of England. On the Classification of Animals and on the Vertebrate Skull. (Churchill and Sons.)

G. HEYNE, the commentator on Homer and Virgil, was, we have heard, when on a visit to Windsor, taken by George III.

to visit his Majesty's college of Eton. The British monarch thought that Eton would as far excel all German seminaries in efficiency as his English dukes outshone in magnificence the half-pauper nobility of the Fatherland. He expressed his opinion pretty freely and pretty frequently, with his usual running accompaniment of "Heys," and "Has," and "Hoos," as each time-honoured element of the "system," each stoutly defended "custom" was expounded and extolled some sixty years ago to himself and his guest as they were but last year to the Public-School Commissioners. The slovenly barbarities of the "Long Chamber," "in which," we are glad to read in page 65 of the first volume of the Report of the Commissioners just spoken of, "there has been a great and progressive improvement within the last twenty years," elicited no other remark than "*Sehr schön*" from the Professor whose own ablutions had rarely extended beyond the limits of Camper's facial angle. But, when the Eton Greek Grammar, of which the booksellers had a large, and the boys, consequently, an exclusive supply, (see Report, vol. iii., p. 98), was shown to the German scholar, with the usual royal outburst of ejaculatory interrogation, his professional feelings were too much for his politeness:

"Out of those lips unshorn
Burst the loud laugh of scorn,"

and, with eyes uplifted and hands deprecatory, he exclaimed "Mein Gott!" We fear, however, that our popular Natural Histories, and even our Manuals of more strictly scientific pretensions on this subject, would seem little nearer to the level of the day in the eyes of Leuckart and Von Siebold than the Eton Grammar of 1800 and 1864 did seem and would seem in the eyes of Heyne and of Kühner.

Professor Huxley's "Elements of Comparative Anatomy" will cause neither friend to blush nor foreigner to blaspheme. It is the inaugural volume of a series, for the completion of which after the fashion of the one now before us, we herewith wish our author the necessary health, strength, and spirits. Consisting of some three hundred pages, it devotes one hundred and twelve to a short sketch of the modern arrangement of Animal Classes, and the other hundred and ninety to the structure and theory of the Vertebrate Skull. As, in visiting some extensive museum, we first get a general idea of the number of its collections, and of the different wings, galleries, and, in the British Museum, cellars, in which they are arranged and stowed away, before we proceed to work steadily and thoroughly through some one or other of its series, so in this work we are first presented with a general *coup d'œil* of the entire animal kingdom, its divisions and disposition; and then, entering in, we devote ourselves to one special department of anatomical study, and we are worked exhaustively through it. A *coup d'œil* view of this latter part of the book enables us to say that it amounts to a *coup de grâce* of the Vertebral Theory; but to this we shall return.

The Lectures of which the volume is made up are more or less exact reproductions of the course delivered now a year ago at the College of Surgeons. Those venerable walls must have exercised on Professor Huxley a sedative effect, such as we ourselves have experienced from the surroundings of a dentist's waiting-room. For this volume is not only much larger in size and weightier in avoirdupois than his former productions—the "Lectures to Working Men" and "Man's Place in Nature"—but it contrasts with them in possessing all the gravity and measured utterance which befits the text-book of students to be. The interests of this class, indeed, are most directly consulted and most surely subserved by the transparent intelligibility of Mr. Huxley's style and the beautiful execution and finish of his illustrations. For this latter advantage, indeed, Mr. Huxley informs us, our thanks are partly due to Mr. Wesley; and we can inform our readers that their excellence was by no means so prominent and eminent on their first appearance in the columns of the

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Medical Times and Gazette as it is now in the separate volume. In a notice of the former of the two books just mentioned, which appeared in these columns, we expressed our dissent from several of the positions taken up therein by our author; and to one speculation, especially, as to the possibility of Chemistry one day attaining to vital, as she has already to organic, synthesis, we demurred on general, as Professor Beale has done more recently in these columns (see *READER*, Feb. 13, 1864), on special grounds. In the second book, "Man's Place in Nature," we can recall to mind nothing to which strong exception need be taken save the expression by the author of an opinion—which is shared in, however, as it would seem, by Professor Owen—to the effect that the attempt to draw an absolute psychical line of demarcation between man and brute will prove futile, and that even the highest faculties of feeling and of intellect begin to germinate in lower forms of life (p. 109). But, in the volume now before us, we cannot put our expurgatorial index finger upon any similarly objectionable passages, and we must express our conviction that all teachers of Biological Science, if they read it not themselves and cause not their pupils to read it likewise, will be sadly wanting in their duty to their classes, to their subject, and to themselves.

In the first part of Mr. Huxley's volume there are several points of novelty to which it may be well here to call the attention of our readers. First, we find it announced that the doctrine of the absence of a *corpus callosum* in the non-placental mammals will shortly be shown to have no foundation in the brain, at all events, of the creatures it speaks of; and that a sentence of banishment to that portion of the Limbo of Vanity where dwell certain other dogmata relating to the hippocampi of apes, the intestines of Brachiopods, and the generation of Aphides is awaiting it from the lips of Mr. Flower. Certain other and brother views as to the structure of an organ peculiar to the higher mammals are in like manner relegated to that airy region, their claims to preservation having been shown to rest on no other ground than that which their unquestioned and unquestionable novelty furnished them. And, thirdly, the three following points in Professor Huxley's classification deserve notice:—he has separated the Mollusca from the Molluscoidea, the Annulosa from the Annuloidea, the Protozoa from the Infusoria. Each separation, however, is made provisionally and prophetically, with the distinct caution and upon the express understanding that the question of the equivalency of these six groups *inter se* firstly and secondly with the two other animal groups, the Cœlenterata, or Zoophytes, and the Vertebrata, be not considered to be thereby prejudiced. These are large questions, and we herewith leave them.

Eight lectures out of the fourteen, and nearly two hundred pages out of the three hundred and three which make up the book, are devoted to the Structure, Development, and Theory of the Vertebrate Skull—seven lectures treating of the Structure and Development, and one, the last, giving the Theory and the Literature of the Theories of the Cranium.

The aphorism cast out and afloat into the world of thought, independently, though not contemporaneously, by Goethe and by Oken grew and multiplied, and threatened at one time to block up and obstruct the streams of physiological progress as effectually as many of our Southern England rivulets are being blocked and choked up with the offspring of that fragment of American weed which was so carelessly thrown into one of them by a Cambridge botanist. Persons who may suppose they have got a full and fair account of the origination, or rather of the re-galvanisation back into life of this mischievous theory, from the "Encyclopædia Britannica," ed. 1858, article "Oken," will do well to read Professor Huxley's account of the matter, at pp. 279-289, or indeed Mr. Lewes's, at p. 360 of his second edition of the "Life of Goethe."

The theory of the vertebrate skeleton and skull was expounded, and its "Archetypes," drawn, in more or less mathematical, more or less grotesque outlines, and published by C. G. Carus in 1828. These singular representations may be conveniently studied by the English reader in a French translation of the German Professor's treatise on Comparative Anatomy which appeared in 1835, which is referred to by Mr. Lewes, p. 353, *loc. cit.*, and of which we have seen many copies, and have purchased one at the Paris bookstalls. A comparison of these with more recent diagrams of the "Archetype" will be interesting and instructive to anybody not already familiar with the subject. Some years later than 1835, and about contemporaneously with the rise into political being of Young-Englandism, which is, in Archetypal phraseology, its "Serial Homologue," plain, final-cause-loving John Bull had this osteological Platonism elaborately expounded to him at his own Association for the Advancement of Science. Good honest man! he is tolerant of anachronisms, as per Report of Public-School Commissioners above cited, and acquiesces in inconsistencies. He purchases Lord John Manners's Poems—at least, so we are informed—and at the same time he refuses to pay more than a shilling duty per quarter for his foreign corn. He allows the University of Oxford to refuse Mr. Kingsley his degree and Mr. Jowett his salary, albeit Mr. Goldwin Smith lives, teaches, and thinks within its precincts. And, finally, he places the "Archetype and Homologies of the Vertebrate Skeleton" side by side on his bookshelf with Kölliker's recently published "History of Development." He hears from one authority that "Nature is the art of God," and from another, and that other no other than Lessing—

"Science, O man, thou sharest with higher spirits,
But Art thou hast alone;"

and he holds by both views equally and simultaneously. Aristotle's imprecation, τὰ γὰρ εἶδη χαίρειν τερετίζματα γὰρ ἐστὶν, καὶ εἰ ἐστὶν οὐδὲν πρὸς τὸν λόγον ἐστὶν (An. Post., i., 22), daunts him not; he pays his homage to a skeleton disinterred in the Garden of the Academy, and pieced together somewhat shakily with German wire and British gum, with the same feeling that it is all right with which he sends by the butler his annual dole to the mediæval mummers. These persons, however, it is but fair to add, have the decency, at least within the United Kingdom, to come round in the evening; and they would not face the nineteenth-century's daylight even in a British Association section-room more than three parts filled with ladies.

Mr. Bull, however, may be convinced by Mr. Huxley's facts, though no metaphysical demonstration of his paralogisms may ever shake his serene repose; and, for his full and final emancipation from the thralldom of this antique Idolon, six pages of the "Elements," 290-296, now before us are all we think it necessary to prescribe.

MR. DAVIES'S SERMONS.

Sermons on the Manifestation of the Son of God: with a Preface, addressed to Laymen, on the Present Position of the Clergy of the Church of England, and an Appendix to the Testimony of Scripture and the Church as to the Possibility of Pardon in the Future State. By the Rev. J. Llewelyn Davies, M.A., Rector of Christ Church, St. Marylebone, late Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge. (Macmillan & Co.)

MR. DAVIES writes with a rare and most agreeable freedom from the affectations of divines; yet he is equally free from the affectation of pretending not to be a divine but something else. He speaks to laymen as a man speaks to men—without the slightest sacerdotal reserve; he seems to suppose that he can speak a more human language—that he is most bound to cast away all assumption of superiority when he takes the place of a messenger of God. He is, in the strictest sense, a theologian; he holds that the English

clergy have vindicated that title to themselves too little, not too much. He fancies that no class of men could vindicate it so effectually, if they would speak simply the language of the Bible and of their own formularies.

In his Preface to "Laymen on the Present Position of the Clergy of the Church of England" he maintains that the liberty which has been accorded to him and his brethren by the late decree of the Privy Council makes their obligations to deliver the Gospel contained in the Bible and the Creeds stronger, not weaker, than it was before. We will not substitute our words for his. He could not have explained himself more distinctly or in more scholarlike English than he has done in the following passage:—

It is only necessary to read the Articles, and the Creeds to which the Articles refer, to see on what subjects the Church of England has been explicit and prescribes conformity. It is the old faith of the Church Catholic, the faith of the Primitive Church, for which our own Church has been jealous. The modern High Churchmen who wish to enforce a dogma contained in no Creed of the Church pay less deference than the Reformers to Catholic antiquity. The Nicene Creed is the great symbol of the Church,—the primitive baptismal confession which emerged from the prehistoric period of Christianity, enlarged by the authority of the greatest Church Council. This is the summary of our Christian belief, which the law of England would not allow a clergyman to contravene. "A poor defective summary," say Presbyterians and Evangelicals, "occupying itself wholly with the nature and work of God, and scarcely laying down a single doctrine about the human soul. It has nothing about the inspiration of the Bible, nothing about justification by faith, nothing about the punishment of man's sin in the person of a substitute, nothing about the condition of mankind in the endless ages, nothing about the date or manner of the creation of the world." This is a true account. Rightly or wrongly, the Church Catholic, followed by the Church of England, has felt that the great business of a Creed was to set forth the Revelation which God has given us of Himself. Other matters relating to man may not be unimportant, but they are subordinate; they are governed by, and to be deduced from, what is made known to us in the Son of Man. If it is a superficial part of the Faith that God revealed Himself in the Eternal Son who took our nature and died and rose again, and that a Spirit has been given to men who is one with the Father and the Son,—then the theology of the Church of England is defective, and, the foundations which modern religious opinion has lent us being withdrawn, we necessarily totter to our fall. But is not the old testimony of earnest modern inquiry declaring to us emphatically that *this*, the genuine historical manifestation of God, the incarnation of the Son, is the question of questions, that all controversy is superficial which does not reach to this? Let the laity, then, learn from the very judgment which has excited their surprise, that Anglican theology, instead of being a blundering congeries of religious traditions, is a firm and definite *theology*, a Gospel concerning God. If we are reproached with having no dogmatic system of metaphysics or of cosmogony, we must admit the defect. But we, at the same time, can claim the liberty of not committing the Gospel to any denial of modern science. To those who, renouncing the old method of Christendom, have made the infallibility of the Bible and the irreversible perdition of unconverted sinners the grounds of their religious system, the judgment must inevitably be alarming. We know these modern schemes too well. We know how fundamental these two principles have been made, the one for doctrine, the other for practical preaching. "We have a Book, every word of which is true. Whatever it says is to be believed, because it is in the Bible." "All mankind are naturally on their way to an eternity of misery and rebellion. But, during this life, every one who hears the Gospel has an offer of escape. Death fixes the unchangeable doom. Who will be so mad as not to seize upon his chance of escape whilst yet there is time?" The logic is in each case short and effective. Those who have known no other scheme from their infancy may well be excused for thinking it impossible that religion can exist upon any other hypothesis. But now the judgment declares to all, with its imperturbable judicial authority, that this is not the dogmatic teaching of the Church

of England. The Church allows those opinions; but its own corner-stone is the witness that God has revealed Himself to us in Jesus Christ, Son of God and Son of Man.

This extract—long, perhaps, but not too long, since it fully sets forth the writer's purpose—will prepare the reader for the Sermons which follow. They are strictly what the title describes them as being, "On the Manifestation of the Son of God." They are historical; no one adheres more vehemently than Mr. Davies to the assertion that the Revelation of God is in and through history—no one accepts the historical method of the Gospels and of the Bible generally with such entire satisfaction. If he discards the doctrine of the infallibility of sentences and letters, it is that he may listen more reverently to the voice of the Word of God speaking to each man and to the generations of men through the records of the old and of the new Dispensation.

The continuity of these discourses, which is their great merit to any thoughtful student, and which might make them specially acceptable to considerate laymen who are weary of the loose, disjointed talk of ordinary preachers, will not, perhaps, help their success with the general public. Though very simple—absolutely free from the mistiness with which some divines of the day are charged—manly in composition, and strong in their appeals to the ordinary experiences of Englishmen, they do not contain those long reiterations of customary phrases which the religious world asks for, and without which a sermon does not ring rightly in their ears. It requires courage and the sense of a high vocation to dispense with these obvious methods of securing popularity. But, if religious men dread what they call "the negative school of theology," they will scarcely find a more intelligent and effectual protestant against it than Mr. Davies—one more determined to maintain the positive claims of the Scriptures and the Creeds upon the faith of mankind.

The Appendix to these Sermons we remember to have read with much pleasure when it appeared in an anonymous pamphlet. It is strikingly free from the dogmatism into which some are said to have fallen in treating of the future state. It is hopeful without being in the least arrogant.

SIX VOLUMES OF POEMS.

Western Woods and Waters: Poems and Illustrative Notes. By John Hoskyns-Abrahall, Jun., M.A., Incumbent of Combe Longa, Oxon, and late Fellow of Lincoln College, Oxford. With Map and Frontispiece. (Longman & Co.)

Voices from the Earth: a Collection of Verses. By Isidore G. Ascher, B.C.L., Advocate, Montreal. (Montreal: Lovell.)

Poems. By Helen Burnside. (Hatchard & Co.)

Sonnets and other Poems. By E. H. W. (Walton and Maberly.)

Effie Campbell and other Poems. By Joseph Truman. (Longman & Co.)

Poems by Emilie L. Marzials; together with an Easter Thought by Joseph Ince. (Westerton.)

THE first thing that strikes one about Mr. Hoskyns-Abrahall's volume is its odd or amorphous structure. The main portion of it consists of a poem in fifteen cantos, in the verse of Longfellow's "Hiawatha," but with other metres largely interspersed, under the quaint title of "Raspberry Moon; or, a July among the Woods and Waters of the Red Man." The author, it seems, made a short tour in the magnificent Canadian lake-region in the month of July 1858—which month, in the Ojibbeway or native Indian calendar, is called "The Raspberry Moon" because the wild raspberries are then ripe; and the poem is intended to be a record of the incidents and impressions of that tour, but involving impressions of the same region received by the author in prior and in subsequent visits. The poem—which is not only divided into cantos, but is subdivided into numbered sections, with Latin, Greek, and English mottoes from various poets, and with headings in Roman or in old English

capitals, as well as with numerous footnotes—occupies 172 pages out of the 420 which make up the entire volume. But, prefixed to the poem, we have an "Introduction," a "List of Supplemental Rules, &c.," two sets of "Errata," and "Dedicatory Lines," not to speak of a frontispiece, and a map of the Laurentian Lakes; and, added to the poem, we have about 210 pages of "Appendix-notes," themselves again giving rise to footnotes—after which comes a supplemental little poem called "The Dahkohta's Dream; or, the Vision on the Dark River," extensively footnoted too—the volume ending with a list of abbreviations and authorities, and an index to the whole. The result of all this mixture of prose and verse, this dividing and subdividing, this footnoting and appendix-noting, is that the volume has a most chaotic and bewildering look. Mr. Hoskyns-Abrahall would seem to be weak in the sense of literary form, or to have had his sense of literary form overborne in this case by a desire to present along with his poem a little encyclopædia of information respecting the region it celebrates. The appendix-notes are such an encyclopædia—consisting of dissertations and elucidations, geographical, ethnological, historical, meteorological, botanical, geological, legendary, philological, and what not, all hooked on by reference-numbers to the lines or phrases of his main poem which they are intended to illustrate. Now there is possibly a good deal of curious and valuable matter in these 210 prose pages; but this tumbling forth of poetry and matter of information in such a promiscuous and chopped-up manner in the same volume will not do at all. No one objects to a few elucidative prose notes to a poem; and possibly to such a poem as Mr. Hoskyns-Abrahall's they were peculiarly necessary; but there is a sense of proportion in such things, and Mr. Hoskyns-Abrahall's method outrages it. Of the style and merits of this poem—a decided improvement, we think, on previous poetical efforts of the author which we have seen—an extract or two will give a sufficient idea. The poem opens thus:—

1.
Dewy dun mists dimm'd the welkin;
Grey fog crept from oozy woodland.
Early hied we from Toronto,—
Sultry, dust-begrimed Toronto,—
Joy'd with yearn'd for summer-ramble.
Sev'n times clang'd each trusty clock-bell;
And July's ninth sun had ris'n.

2.
Forth the snorting fire-steed bore us,—
By char'd stump and stunted cedar,
Sturdy wheat and tooth-like snake fence,
Through the grove's delicious coolness,
Pine and hickory, spruce and hemlock,
Pink-eared stalk and orange cluster,
Waving flame-like, flaring blaze-like,
Through the shades day never lightens.
Thus we rose o'er many a terrace
Bathed by old Ontario's billows,
While, through slowly-rolling ages,
Shrank the marge of his huge basin.

3.
As we fared, a vision met us,
Ruth and indignation rousing.
Toil'd a horse in dreary treadmill,—
Ever toil'd he,—while behind him
Sped a sawing-apparatus.

The poem abounds with descriptions of American scenery, interspersed with glimpses of Indians, allusions to their habits, and versions of their legends, and with recollections of what the author would offer as the oddities and humours of his tour in these little-known parts. Here is the approach to Niagara:—

Borne by Thought-yoked, Thought-rein'd Vapour,
Glode we down the flood of ages,
O'er that old-world flood we floated,
O'er that bright broad flood we floated:—
Borne by Thought-yoked, Thought-rein'd Vapour,
Glode we o'er his cultured margin,
Bravely pranked with tints of Summer,
Tints of Raspberry Moon, the joyous:—
O'er smooth field of azure glode we,
Through fair tilth and wildwood glode we,
To the sea of mantling breakers,
To the twin-cascades of thunder.

Oh! the scene that burst upon us!
Oh! the vision that enchain'd us
Eye-charm'd, soul-charm'd in rapt thralldom!
Vainly doth that peerless landscape
Limner's pencil toil to render,
Tongue of man assay to language,
Strive to grasp the brain of mortal.
May some myriad-minded spirit,
Poet of the mighty future,
Sing its fury and its terror,
Sing its beauty and its grandeur!

Mr. Hoskyns-Abrahall himself goes on to make a provisional attempt at this "song," in a series of pages which are about the best and most readable in his poem. Many parts of the poem are hardly readable, owing to the author's prevailing affection for whatever is odd in fact and unpronounceable in nomenclature. This, he may plead, was inseparable from his subject.

From a poem about Canada we turn to a volume of verses from Canada. Mr. Ascher's muse does not deal with any specially Canadian or North American themes, and we are not troubled in his volume with Indian archæology or customs. Having had a notion, explained and justified in his preface, that brief lyrics, even by persons who do not profess to be poets of any mark, may do good, he has published a collection of his own lyrics under such titles as "By the Hearth," "Shadow," "Sunlight," "Old Letters," "I love you," "Childhood," "Falling Leaves." They are by no means perfect in expression, and they lack the bold or keen music which is necessary to make a lyric reach the heart or linger in the memory; but they breathe good sentiments, and are characterized by a certain pleasant and poetical pensiveness. The following is not the best; but we quote it as the most Canadian:—

LIGHT FOR CANADA'S SAGES!

[Written after the Toronto judges had decided to return Anderson the slave, who sought the protection of Canada.]

Light for Canada's sages,
Truth for the hoary wise,
Wisdom for doubting judges,
Who read with jaundiced eyes
An eternal law before them,—
A statute that never can change,
That holds men free on this ample earth,
Where'er they may chance to range!
Come from your dusty chambers,
Ye who interpret the laws,
Unloose the bonds that fetter the heart
To slavery's blood-stained cause;
For a people's voice, like a tempest,
Shall drown your feeble speech:
The fiat uttered for freedom's sake
No judge can ever impeach.
The clank of the negro's fetters,
The snap of the brutal thong,
Shall waken the heart to justice
For slavery's curse and wrong.
A freeman claimed your protection;
Will you send him back a slave?
That a hellish crew may gloat o'er his corse
Consigned to a felon's grave!
Are we part of the pack of bloodhounds
To track with rifle and knife?
To read in statutes a meaning
To yield up a brother's life?
Our life and freedom united
Are given by God to defend
At every cost and hazard,—
To guard and preserve to the end.
There are laws in every bosom
That can never change or die,
As wide as the dome of heaven,
As fixed as the stars on high;
A sense of eternal justice,
A law of eternal right,
That shall send forth free the man that is
wronged
By the dust in the sages' sight.

To the little volume of poems by Miss Helen Burnside there is an introduction by her sister, giving some touching particulars of the circumstances in which they were written. In the year 1852 Miss Burnside, being then twelve years of age, entirely lost her hearing in consequence of an attack of scarlet fever, which carried off two of her brothers and a sister. Chiefly in consequence of the isolation in which this misfortune placed her, she began to write verses; and the present volume is a selection of pieces, some of them written

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immediately after she became deaf, and others since. Some are on such public incidents as the death of Lord Macaulay, the death of Prince Albert, the marriage of the Prince of Wales; others are of the nature of hymns or religious songs; but the most touching are those relating to incidents of the author's own life and home. The following is on her own deafness:—

NEVER MORE!

Must it be never more?—the mournful stillness
Falls upon me with oppressing chillness!
It seems that all my future must be drear;
I cannot still within my heart the longing;
Remembrance brings those voices ever thronging—
Familiar voices that I used to hear
In the bright days of yore.
Never more to hear the waters flowing!
Never more to hear the free winds blowing!
Nor the chiming of the Sabbath-bell.
Never more, thy tuneful voice, O Nature,
Nor the wild birds, singing in their rapture,
The low sweet music that I loved so well,—
Must these be never more?
“Never!” from my soul the answer rises;
“But often blessings take these dark disguises.
Hast thou no faith to trust thy Master’s word?”
It may be that the blow ’neath which I’m sighing
Has waked the gift of song within me lying;
Thanks, grateful thanks, I give for this, O Lord—
I give for this to Thee!
Let me not use the gift that Thou hast given
In questioning the high decrees of Heaven;
Rather let me in my lot rejoice.
“Never!”—nay, I shrink not at the fiat,
For the first sound that breaks the solemn quiet
Will be the music of my Master’s voice.
Yea, Lord, so let it be!

In the “Sonnets and other Poems” by E. H. W. there are evidences not only of a fine religious pensiveness, verging on melancholy, but also of a highly-cultivated taste, and sense of literary finish. In this respect they are superior to any of the volumes we have hitherto mentioned. The following sonnet will prove this as well as the possession of something of a higher poetical faculty:—

TIME AND ETERNITY.

The soul is like a watch-tower by the sea:
One while the sunbeams glide, the breezes blow
Over the downs where corn and clover grow,
The restless cattle-bells sound from the lea,
And children whimper, or cry out for glee,
Where through the gorge the winding pathways go
Down to the village street.—Anon the flow
Of the great waters swells in majesty,
Stirred by the landward blast; the evening light
Flashes across their depth, the hush of night
Falls on the earth, and to the ocean song
The soul gives ear, striving to comprehend,
And answer, with a yearning wild and strong,
Where wistful hopes with cherished memories blend.

Mr. Truman’s “Effie Campbell” is but a dainty little ballad of three-and-twenty stanzas, and the greater portion of this tiny volume consists of the additional poems. In these also we find at the least graceful feeling and cultured expression. Here are some lines from the longest of them, which is in blank verse, and is entitled “The Post:”—

Not want—not vice—scared him away. He knew
That thought may ripen at the weaver’s loom,
And genius travel with a dusty shoe,
And beauteous feeling vein uncultured hearts,
As gold the rough-ribbed hills. To him it seem’d
Humanity is greatest in its grief,
As Christ in death; therefore the suffering
And poor and sorrowful he studied most.
Who would be skill’d in human nature must
Know well the sad—sorrow makes men sincere.
Hateful to him were small-soul’d sectaries,
And such as limit and prescribe the truth
As if monopoly of light were theirs.
Eclectic in the temper of his faith,
Of differing theologies he held,
None could be wholly false or fully true,
And that the catholic authentic Church
Was where the pious and aspiring were.

The last little volume on our list, and entitled “Poems by Emilie L. Marzials,” &c., contains some very pretty verses—nay, some that deserve a higher epithet. The first and larger portion is the work of a very young writer, and, as such, displays what is better than polished diction and correct versification—viz., promise. Her pieces are very unequal in power, but rising in the best to great

beauty and remarkable thoroughness of conception. As instances, we would refer to the poems entitled “Behold, I stand at the Door and Knock,” “The Two Reminiscences,” one of a Spanish and one of an English scene, and to the “Carisbrook Castle.” The following is an extract from the last, relating to the unfortunate Princess Elizabeth:—

So I lay idly on the grass,
And saw the strangest vision pass;
And of old times I dreamed again,
Weaving a dandelion chain.
It was a damp, cold prison-room;
And on the window-sill I spied
A maiden lying cold and dead—
So, far from kith and kin, she died.
She, princess of the royal blood,
Lay calm, and still, and very pale,
For she had burst her prison bars,
And now stood free, within the veil.
A bird sat on the window-ledge,
Freed from its cage, and seemed to pour
A stream of glad exulting sound
To waft the soul to heaven’s door.

The faults of these poems, as pieces of art, are such as care and labour will remove. Natural aptitude, even when unquestionably present, is not enough to make a poet.

The second portion of the little volume is evidently the work of a maturer hand. It shows a mind attuned to religious influences; and, indeed, it might be objected to one or two of the pieces that they are too hymn-like. The versification is very good. The following verse, like the poem from which it is drawn, evinces, to our thinking, considerable power:—

Who may this be, homeward sailing?
This is he who went forth quailing;
But, when the danger round him crept,
The lion heart within him leapt,
And onward through the waves he swept.
“Come, follow me, who dare follow!”
And now at setting of the sun,
Soon as he hears the harbour-gun,
He smiles at his bodings hollow.”

“The proceeds arising from the sale of this book,” as we are informed by a notice on the cover, “will be devoted to the French Protestant Free Schools, Gerrard Street, Soho.”

BÜCHNER’S “MATTER AND FORCE.”

Matter and Force. By Dr. Louis Büchner. Translated by J. F. Collingwood. (Trübner.)

IT would be easy to describe this book in words of most offensive association to the English reader. Seldom, indeed, is materialism so nakedly presented in our language. Whether or not the rare allusions in scientific works to those entities which Dr. Büchner denies do not form a mere drapery to hide an ugly gap, we will not now inquire. Some reasons for our English taste for this kind of drapery are very low, and some are very high; nevertheless, it may be well occasionally that it should be removed, and we should ask ourselves what lies beyond. Meantime the present work has all the claim that a wide circulation can give for its admission on English soil. “Kraft und Stoff” was published at Tübingen in 1855; and the present translation is taken from the eighth edition, the two first having been exhausted in the first few months. As it has, besides, appeared in France, Russia, America, Denmark, and Holland, in all which countries, the translator tells us, it has attracted considerable attention, this rapid diffusion in Germany can be ascribed to no mere national peculiarity. This attention must be due to the energy and fearless consistency with which the views of the author are expressed; for it is certainly not earned by any originality or profundity in those views themselves. That Matter and Force are, in nature, indissolubly connected; that each within that limit, as it is indestructible, is also incapable of origination; that, consequently, the whole scheme of things contains at every moment exactly the same amount of each as at any previous period of time—these are truths which are now the inheritance of every thinker, the capital bequeathed to him by the industry of his forerunners, which he may leave unimproved

or put out to valuable interest, but the mere possession of which is dependent on no exertions of his own. That which distinguishes the present version of this common creed is its vehement denial of any world lying beyond the limits where these laws are inexorably fulfilled—in a word, of the supernatural. The spiritual world appears as that zero to which its fractional value in the thoughts of scientific men appears to be continually approximating; and, as supplying us with a formula for the tendencies of modern science, the work may be regarded as possessing a representative value. Having said thus much, we shall not dwell further on the writer’s arguments that God, immortality, and spirit are the mere phantasms of ignorance, the visible horizon which connects earth and heaven, but which, since our childhood, none of us has attempted to reach. They do not pretend to contain any novelty; indeed we should imagine the ideas they contain had suggested themselves with or without the bitterest pain to most thoughtful minds. We look upon “Force and Matter” as what we have described it—a representative work; and, after speaking of what appears to us valuable in the individual, we propose to criticize the species, regarding our specimen as a mere exposition of the materialistic tendencies of modern science.

The best chapter in the book, as might have been expected, is that which treats of Design in Nature. The poor old final causes will always afford to an assailant as easy a victory as that of Falstaff over Hotspur, when “we rose at an instant, and fought a long hour by Shrewsbury clock.” Yet, since there certainly was a time when the argument was considered of value, a forcible exposition of its emptiness does not seem to us altogether superfluous. This chapter appears also noteworthy as being written in 1853, seven years before the publication of the now famous “Origin” (a work which was, at all events, capable of playing the part of Prince Henry in our parable, whether or not sufficient life was left in its antagonist to exercise such power), and as revealing to us that dim outline of a great truth often presented to other minds just before the discoverer flashes on it the light of his genius. The following passages, for instance, remind us of those gropings after the idea of universal gravitation to be met with in the period immediately anterior to Newton, and might find equal parallels, no doubt, in the history of every great discovery. “Numbers of arrangements in nature, apparently full of design, are nothing but the results of the influence of external natural conditions; an influence, it must never be forgotten, which continued for millions of years to become (*sic*) dominant” (p. 90). “How many unfortunate attempts may not nature, or the materials endowed with force, have made in the production of these various forms? *These attempts failed when all conditions necessary for their existence did not concur*” (p. 91). “Such forms as could preserve themselves are now seen in a well-ordered series, in mutual relation to each other and to surrounding natural forces. *What is now existing in the world are the remains of an infinite number of beginnings*” (p. 92). In short, the whole chapter is a clear and forcible statement of the truth which must have occurred to many readers of the Bridgewater Treatises, and which contains the germ of natural selection—viz., that, if any organisms ever existed which were not adapted to the existing framework of nature, they must simply have died off, and that therefore the actual system of adaptation is no proof whatever of any intention in the beginning of things. The author characterizes the “adaptation” theory as one “which imputes an absurdity to a creative power, which is to have created an evil with its antidote, instead of omitting the creation of either” (p. 101).

Again, on the subject of disease, the remarks of our author are perfectly just. Of late years much stress has been laid on the connexion of disease with some transgression of what are often called the laws of God (we

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may suggest George Combe's "Constitution of Man" as an instance); and the idea of all physical suffering as the work of the Devil, and to be resisted, has gained rapid ground upon the older idea of submission, expressed in our Service for the Visitation of the Sick. Such a belief appears to us to belong to that circle of truths which Mr. Mansell called "regulative." It appears in its place in Miss Nightingale's "Notes on Nursing," in Lord Palmerston's answer to the Scotch petition for a national fast on the occasion of the cholera—wherever, in short, there is anything to be done. Let us drain our towns, ventilate our buildings, exert ourselves to spread sanitary knowledge among the poor, *as if*, when all were done, disease and suffering would be at an end. Perhaps it may be so, or, perhaps, as our author tells us that "disease is as old as organic life" (p. 96), so it may be destined to co-exist with it upon this planet; at any rate, there is unquestionably a margin of disease which it lies with us to remove; and, if we find a nucleus of inevitable suffering when this is done, we may console ourselves with thinking to how small a compass we have reduced it. But let us not think that anything is explained by this view of physical suffering. It is good to know that disease is preventible, inasmuch as we may prevent it; but it does not render less mysterious a penalty not exacted from the individual who has transgressed the law, or imposed in proportion to anything that can possibly be considered as moral guilt in this transgression.

The reader will be reminded by this work of Mr. Grove's well-known essay on "The Correlation of Forces;" and a few words on the resemblance and dissimilarity of the two books will form the best introduction to what we have to say on those tendencies in modern science of which the present volume is typical. The two books are not to be mentioned together in any other sense than as possessing certain ideas in common. The one is among those half-dozen works of our time which arrange old facts by the light of new ideas, those landmarks in the history of thought which signify a new tract reclaimed to the cultivation of science—the other is original in almost nothing but its negations. One shows us a new path through a well-known country—the other, pointing to what we imagined a line of distant hills, only informs us, "Mere cloud-architecture—there is nothing there." But they do possess in common the conception of one imperishable force, invariable in amount, appearing now as heat, now as movement, now as electricity, or rather as all the different varieties of movement which we know under these names, and always allied with an amount of matter like itself invariable, liable to endless transformation, but to destruction never. Mr. Grove's work is exclusively scientific. Dr. Buchner says a great deal upon subjects on which science gives no information whatever. But it is this very dissimilarity which appears to us instructive. One view we believe to be true, and one to be false; but, not to waste time in diluting a paradox, our assertion is that in the truth lies that which suggests the falsehood, and that a right appreciation of this suggestion is, for the world of thinkers, one of the greatest needs of our day.

If we have understood rightly the work of Mr. Grove (we attempt with diffidence to condense into a few words the purport of one of the most pregnant treatises of our day), it is to this effect:—The importation into the domain of physical science of the idea of causation is, strictly speaking, erroneous. It may be convenient to speak of one phenomenon as the cause of another—of electricity, for instance, as the cause of magnetism—but this is merely a metaphorical statement of fact, of the same family as the despised, but, Mr. Grove thinks, not despicable, aphorism, "Nature abhors a vacuum." Both these statements connect by a convenient formula a number of similar facts; but, in each case, the formula is a notion borrowed from a different world than that of nature. Strictly

speaking, the idea *cause* is as remote from the world of nature as the idea *abhorrence*,—in a word, it belongs to the *supernatural*. The conception by which we are to replace it, as physical science filters itself from metaphysical notions, is that of ever-changing Force, appearing now as magnetism, now as electricity, and not more original in the one form than in the other. Of this Force there is a certain constant amount in the world, just as there is a constant amount of moisture; it may take different forms—as water may appear in the liquid, fluid, or gaseous state; but one form of this force can no more be called a *cause* of any other than water can be called a cause of ice. Thus, electricity and magnetism, to recur to Mr. Grove's illustration, do not stand to each other in the relation of blossom and fruit, but of water and ice. They are not different stages of development of the same agency; they are different forms of an agency in which there is no development. This is not Mr. Grove's language; the word development does not, so far as we are aware, occur in the Essay; but it is, if not his meaning, what appears to us a mere inference from the meaning expressed in these words, that "the various affections of matter are all correlative, and have a reciprocal dependence; neither can be said to be the essential cause of the others, but either may produce any of the others" (p. 15). We have quoted this sentence as at once containing the pith of the whole book, and forming the link with the work at present under review; and our remaining space will be occupied in illustrating what seems to us the real, though unlogical, connexion between the view, so remote from all theological inference, of the one writer, and the undisguised atheism of the other.

While the student of physical science is occupied in the "study of effects to arrive at causes," as Mr. Grove quotes the common expression, though he can never come in contact with creative power—though such an agency lies beyond the realm of nature under *any* point of view—yet this idea is certainly suggested to him. If electricity were the cause of magnetism, if something else were the cause of electricity, and so on, we should be pursuing a chain of cause and effect which at least suggested a conclusion. Ascending higher in the series at every step, we should feel ourselves approaching a First Cause, which, indeed, on this territory we could never reach, but a space for which was prepared in the mind by these investigations. But, when we have discovered that electricity, for instance, is only the cause of magnetism, as magnetism is the cause of electricity; that, wherever we enter on the cycle of Forces, we may return to our original starting-point without finding a break—the mind is not in the same way prepared for the conception of origin. The intellect replies to the soul, like Laplace to Napoleon when asked why his *Mécanique Céleste* contained no mention of God—"Je n'ai pas besoin de cet hypothèse." That speech is no impure condensation of the tendencies of modern science. It does not only exclude creation from its own territory: it certainly has a tendency to unfit the mind for the conception of origin. Now this twofold conception of origin lies on the threshold of the world of Spirit—volition in Man, creation in God. All conviction of the reality of the spiritual world is inseparably wrought up with the belief not only that Time is divided into a "has been" and a "shall be," but that for every individual, side by side with the actual past and future, remain a "might be" and a "may be." Take away this belief, and you have entered on a path where every step of consistent thought (how different it is with inconsistent thought we need not pause to concede) must carry you further and further from all spiritual reality, which will end in that unbroken cycle of forces, where man forms a mere segment, which we have described. Now it is not enough to say that science knows nothing of this "might" and "may"—that is adequately answered by the truth that it does not extend into the region

where it is applicable; but we do not see any escape from the conviction that its tendency is to prevent the mind from receiving the conception of what is expressed by those words. Of course we use the mere words "might" and "may" with reference to physical fact. We say "This man may recover from his illness," and we say "This man may repent of his sin;" but do we mean the same thing by the repeated word? If we do, we cease to believe in the supernatural. If the contingency, in the last case as in the first, refers to a mere doubt in the mind of the speaker, then he has crossed the great watershed of human thought and set his foot on the descent that slopes away from the spiritual world.

And yet we do not see how the man of science can avoid the temptation to cross this line. He finds no limit of origin anywhere: the further he pursues his investigations the more he is convinced that they will never reveal to him anything but evolution. A long life of scientific investigation does not bring him nearer the conception of a beginning than he was at first. How can he be otherwise than unfitted to receive it, either as a fact in the history of the world or in the mind of man? That origin which we name *will*—that movement of spirit which is undetermined from any outward impulse—that event which we feel might have been different, all other things remaining the same, and which is thus an exception to all other events—what fact of nature does not close the mind against it? How can it be that one should spend his life in studying such facts and retain his belief in that which they contradict?

Let it not be thought unfitting to say so much, and to say no more. Truth cannot ultimately be inconsistent with Truth. Both for the course of every individual mind and for the mind of humanity, we are certain that a time will come when the knowledge of the laws of nature will blend into one harmonious whole with a belief in a Divine Creator. But knowledge moves slowly, as its progress is measured by our threescore years and ten, and the mighty curves which represent divergent paths of thought may recede for ages yet to come, and meet at last. To point out this divergence is not to throw any doubt on the ultimate coincidence of all true thought in some common centre. On that certainty it would be out of place to dilate here; but it is not out of place here to suggest, to those whose pursuits and interests lie in a different direction, that discordant views on the deepest subjects in the minds of scientific men may be the result of no narrowness or twist in the mind of the thinker, but of an inherent tendency in the object of thought. Would that this conviction might be brought home to those most sure of all that scientific men are tempted to deny! Would that they could learn to contemplate the incredulity of science, in all its varying shades, from the mere averted interest of our own scientific world, to the dogmatic atheism of such books as "Matter and Force," as the blindness of those who, rightly and meritoriously, have worked too long in the mines whence they have brought us precious treasures, and cannot bear the return to the light of day!

NOTICES.

The Antediluvian History and Narrative of the Flood, as set forth in the early portions of the Book of Genesis, critically examined and explained. By the Rev. E. D. Rendell of Preston. Second Edition, revised. (Pitman.)—An explanation of the early Biblical narrative, based on Swedenborg's principle of "correspondences." Mr. Rendell goes some way with modern criticism, in arguing that the narrative of the Creation and of the Flood, taken literally, cannot be reconciled with facts now known. But he will scarcely carry modern critics with him in his allegorical interpretation of the Biblical language. The creatures in Paradise, according to Mr. Rendell, represent human qualities; tame beasts=celestial affections, fowls=spiritual perceptions, and wild

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beasts = natural delights. This interpretation is supported by Scriptural proof as follows:—"That *beasts* represented the good affections of the celestial man is evident from its being said that 'beasts were in heaven,' and that 'four *beasts* fell down and worshipped God, saying, Amen; Alleluia.' These circumstances cannot be predicated of natural beasts, but only of the good affections of celestial men which they represent. That *fowls* denote the true perceptions of the spiritual man is plain, for similar reasons:—"An 'angel cried with a loud voice, saying to all the *fowls* that fly in the midst of heaven, Come and gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God.' This invitation was not delivered to irrational, irresponsible birds, but to the intellectual perceptions of the spiritual man of which they are significant. That by the *wild beasts* are signified the general affections of the natural man, which are preserved in order by the influence of superior principles, appears from this declaration:—"The wild beasts of the field shall honour me: because I give waters in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert, to give drink to my people.' Wild beasts give no honour to God on account of the blessings which he bestows upon mankind; but they are said to do so, on account of the representation they were selected to sustain."

The Chess Congress of 1862: a Collection of the Games played, and a Selection of the Problems sent in for Competition. Edited by J. Löwenthal, Manager and Foreign Correspondent. (Bohn.)—THE most interesting portion of this book, to those who are not enthusiasts, is the introduction, giving an account of the rise and progress of the British Chess Association, culminating in their great Congress of 1862. It appears that, in 1840, two gentlemen of Wakefield formed the idea of inviting the members of the Yorkshire Chess Clubs to meet in one place and have a good day's play. The result was so successful that a "Yorkshire Chess Association" was at once formed for repeating the conference annually in different towns of the county. In 1853 it was enlarged to take in other counties in the Northern and Midland districts, and in 1857 it was extended to the whole of Great Britain and Ireland. In 1862 the Association took advantage of the Exhibition year to convene a Grand International Chess Congress, which was held at St. James's Hall in July. The proceedings comprised a tournament of matches between celebrated players; the allotment of prizes for ingenious problems; a discussion and settlement of the laws of the game; and, of course, a public dinner. The body of the present work contains two hundred games played, and about three hundred problems produced on this occasion, all fully annotated and illustrated; and we cannot be much wrong in predicting that any industrious student who will carefully go through all these must, if he survives the task, find his knowledge of the game improved thereby.

The Chess Openings. By Robert B. Wormald, B.A. (Simpson.)—It is a sign of advance in chess literature that we are now beginning to have books on separate portions of the game, instead of, as formerly, general treatises embracing the whole. A game at chess comprises three distinct parts, tolerably distinct from each other—namely, the *opening*, in which a position is striven for; the *mid-game*, in which this position is used; and the *ending*, in which the results of the position are obtained. The first of these is the one which best admits of book-teaching; and it is to this that Mr. Wormald devotes his attention. The various kinds of openings, of which there are a great variety, are known by special names, such as the King's Bishop's, or King's Knight's game, the various Gambits, the French game, the Fianchetto di donna, &c.; and all these, with their various defences, are fully analysed in the little book before us. It has, however, the defect of the absence of an index, which ought to be remedied at once in any copies that remain unbound.

The Layrock of Langley-Side. A Lancashire Story. By Benjamin Brierley, author of "Tales and Sketches of Lancashire Life," "Chronicles of Waverlow," &c. (London: Simpkin, Marshall, & Co.; Manchester: A. Ireland & Co. Pp. 212.)—THE Layrock, or the "Lavrock," as the Scotch people call it, is a poor working Lancashire lad of a fine noble nature who comes to grief through being unjustly accused of robbery. But it is not the plot which gives the charm to the volume—it is the inimitable manner in which Mr. Brierley depicts the feelings and manners of the working classes of Lancashire. After getting over the difficulties of the dialects, which the reader will do in two or three pages, he will find the author racy of the soil, and teeming with a humour and

a pathos which will hold him spell-bound to the end of the last page. The literary art of the book, too, is excellent; and Lancashire may be proud of so clever an exponent of its ways and doings, its feelings and modes of thought. The volume is dedicated to Samuel Bamford, author of "Passages in the Life of a Radical."

An Old Englishman's Opinion on Schleswig-Holstein and Germany, being a Practical Evidence for the Justice of their Cause given after a fifty years' residence in Germany. With Supplement of Official Documents. A Non-Official Blue-Book, dedicated to every one of the Author's countrymen as a testimony of acknowledgment for the German nation. (Trübner & Co. Pp. 62.)—IN spite of a rather rambling manner, the "Old Englishman" speaks very much to the point, and, with his fifty years' German experience, comes to the conclusion that Schleswig-Holstein should have been liberated from Denmark long ago. He appears to be perfectly independent and honest in his convictions, and regards the London Treaty as "an attack upon the integrity of Germany." He regards the behaviour of France in the matter as perfectly consistent, and deserving grateful acknowledgment; but England's conduct in the whole affair he thinks perfectly inexplicable, and he hopes Englishmen will never allow their country "to be made the tool for enslaving Schleswig-Holstein. We are too apt," he says, "to forget the great fact of their being a German Nation, and the reconstruction of the German Empire will benefit instead of injure the interests of England." The pamphlet is full of historical and genealogical references; and the "Old Englishman" believes with Goethe, whom he quotes largely, that the grand destiny of Germany has yet to be fulfilled.

The Redeemer. Discourses by Edmond de Pressensé, D.D. With Introduction by William Lindsay Alexander, D.D. (Edinburgh: T. and T. Clark.)—THE writings of French Protestant divines are far more likely to be popular in this country than those of the most orthodox Germans. And M. de Pressensé has qualities to make him very useful as well as popular amongst English readers. He is eloquent and copious, as a writer who would please the many should be, but he is also a scholar and a man of thought; and there is a pleasant glow of warm Christian feeling in all his discourses. The work before us is a good translation of a book published some ten years ago, but likely to be read with more interest now than when it first appeared in France. The main subjects of it are, the Preparation for the Coming of Jesus Christ, the Nature of Jesus Christ, the Plan of Jesus Christ, the Holiness of Jesus Christ, Jesus Christ a Prophet, a Sacrifice, and a King. The theology of M. de Pressensé is that which is technically called Evangelical, but is free from some of the superstitions of our English type, and has far more life and breadth. "The Redeemer" is a book which ought to have a large circulation in the religious circles of England and Scotland, and wherever it is read it can scarcely fail to do good as well as to be liked.

Heroines of the Household. By the Author of "The Heavenward Path" and "Popular Preachers of the Ancient Church." (Hogg and Sons. Pp. 299.)—THE "heroines" here treated of are such women as "Monica, the mother of Augustine," "Lady Brilliana Harley of Brampton Bryan," "Grisell Hume" (Lady Baillie of Jerviswood), "Caroline Claudius, wife of Frederick Perthes," "Mrs. Schimmelpenninck," "Miss Marsh," so well known for her labours among the navvies, besides several lady-founders of Sisterhoods. "Their biographies," says the preface, "introduce us to some of the most important periods of history, and reveal some of their most interesting features." The examples range from the early days of the Church down to the present time, and the narrative is enhanced by the spirited illustrations of Miss M. Ellen Edwards. The book will no doubt become popular.

Three Days of a Father's Sorrow: a Book of Consolation. From the French of Felix Bungener. (Smith, Elder, & Co. Pp. 110.)—THE death of his little daughter at the age of two years is what has called forth the tender outpourings in Felix Bungener's "Book of Consolation." His delicacy and Christian simplicity often remind us of "Delta," and several of the passages read like a prose version of "Casa Wappy." Those who have lost their little ones will read this book with no ordinary interest, and will never dream of being "astonished that the record of only three days should fill so many pages," feeling keenly the force of Bungener's remark that "it is grief, not joy, which is so many-sided." "There is a lifetime," he says, "in three days of real

sorrow." The translation reads smoothly, and has evidently been a labour of love.

The Ecclesiastical Commission, its Origin and Progress, with some Examination of the Report of the Select Committee of the House of Commons in 1862-3. By a Clergyman in the Diocese of Winchester. (Rivingtons.)—A USEFUL pamphlet for those who desire a fair statement of what the Ecclesiastical Commissioners have accomplished, and a reasonable estimate of the objections made to their proceedings. The Clergyman's narrative is substantially a defence of the Commission, but it appears to be the result of unbiassed inquiry; and there can be little doubt that the work of the Ecclesiastical Commission, as it was one of the most needed, has also been one of the most valuable practical reforms of the last half-century.

The Doctrine of Election: an Essay. By Edward Fry. (Bell and Daldy.)—A PIOUS and scholarly little treatise, showing a sound knowledge of the Scriptures, and of the theology of its subject, together with no ordinary power of reasoning clearly amidst metaphysical difficulties. Mr. Fry does not profess any original view of the doctrine of which he treats; but he endeavours to maintain the positions that there is a Divine Election, that Election depends absolutely on God's will, but that the Election is not necessarily to everlasting life, but rather to certain privileges and opportunities in this world. He might have gone somewhat further into the heart of the matter, if he had been able to recognise with St. Paul an absolute election of men to sonship, grounded in the Divine will and idea—an election which can wait, however, indefinitely for its complete realization.

The New Testament for English Readers. With a Critical and Explanatory Commentary. By Henry Alford, D.D., Dean of Canterbury.—IN No. 25 of THE READER the publication of the first portion of Dean Alford's edition of the English New Testament was noticed somewhat at length. To what was there said we have only to add that this second part completes the first volume, and contains the Gospel of St. John and the Acts of the Apostles. The text is preceded by two introductory chapters, one devoted to each of the books, treating of its authorship, sources, object, date of composition, genuineness of the text, style and character, and chronology. These, as well as the greater portion of the exegetical notes at the foot of the page, are written in the clear muscular style of the Dean, and, like the marginal corrections of readings and renderings, will serve to elucidate many passages that have, hitherto, appeared obscure to the mere English reader in our authorized version.

MR. NIMMO'S SERIES OF DEVOTIONAL POCKET VOLUMES.—The plan of this series is not less happily conceived than executed. The volumes each average some two hundred pages; the size, 18mo., is that best suited for the pocket; the type, large and clear, is rendered more so by the use of toned paper; and the binding, overlapping covers, preserves the book from injury, though constantly worn in the pocket.—*Across the River* consists of twelve essays or sermonettes—not sermons—illustrating Scriptural views of the future, by Drs. Macleod, Candlish, Hamilton, Spence, and others, with pieces of sacred poetry, original and selected, let into the opening page of each, as illustrative gems.—*The Cedar Christian*, a book for Christian men, is made up of a series of papers by the Rev. Theodore Cuyler, which originally appeared in the *New York Independent*, the writer's name being sufficient warrant for the simple piety of the contents.—*The Chastening of Love* presents us with eighteen sermonettes by Dr. Parker of Manchester, words of consolation for the Christian mourner, one extract from which will serve as a key to the whole:—"Prayer insures safety. You may pray without words; prayer may be in the glance of the eye, in the heaving of the breast. One sigh may be more devotional than the most elaborate liturgy. We err in imagining that prayer is to be measured by syllables."—*Gladening Streams; or, Waters of the Sanctuary* is the production of the editor, and is a series of fifty-two sermonettes for all the Sundays in the year, suited as an addition to family prayer at the close of the day, each comprised in a few sentences, and accompanied by original sacred poetry.—*The Spirit of the Old Divines* gives short biographies and devotional extracts from the old Puritan divines—Knox, Rollock, Dickson, Blair, Gillespie, Boston, and others.—The entire series deserves to be popular.

CASSELL'S ILLUSTRATED PUBLICATIONS.—The re-issue of the *Illustrated Bible* on toned paper exhibits the many woodcut illustrations to great advantage. As we have already said, the book

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leaves nothing to be desired by the class of readers for whom it is intended.—The *Illustrated Bunyan* has reached the eleventh part, in which appears a vignette portrait of John Bunyan, with the usual excellent woodcuts in the text. The *Holy War* is commenced in this part. Altogether this *Illustrated Bunyan*, judging from *The Pilgrim's Progress* and *The Holy War*, which ranks only second to the former amongst the allegories in our language, is, as the publishers express it, "a monument worthy of Bunyan."—The *Illustrated Robinson Crusoe*, of which Part VI. is now ready, appears to sustain its character with the public. So, too, does the *Illustrated Goldsmith*, the second part being, if anything, even superior to its precursor. Part III. of the *Tercentenary Illustrated Shakespeare* fulfils the promises of the prospectus, and, when completed, the entire work will present to the reader an edition of the great dramatist in every way satisfactory. Part XIV. of the *Illustrated Bible Dictionary* and Part XLI. of the *Illustrated History of England* mark the progress of those useful and excellent publications.

Child Angels (Messrs. Rivingtons) is a sweetly-told little religious tale of how a child was the means of reconciling a haughty grandmother to her own daughter, and to a more quickening sense of all Christian love and duty. From the same publishers we have *Witness for Jesus*: a Sermon preached at St. Paul's Cathedral by Henry Parry Liddon, M.A., Student of Christ Church, Oxford. From Messrs. Parker we have *An Address to the Royal Commission appointed to Revise the Various Forms of Declaration made by the Clergy of the Church of England in Favour of the Abolition of the Oath against Simony*, by Rev. Charles Meade Ramus, M.A.; from Mr. J. Burns, *A Few Words of Exhortation to the Public on the Inspiration of the Old and New Testaments, Spiritualism and Animal Magnetism, and in regard to the Rights, Interests, and Duties of the Laity*, by A. Layman; from Messrs. Groombridge and Sons, *The Exiles of Berezov*, by Frances M. Wilbraham, forming one of the "Magnet Series;" from Mr. Stock, the current number of *The Sunday-School Teacher's Commentary on the New Testament*, by Eustace R. Conder, M.A.; from Messrs. Saunders, Otley, and Morgan the May number of the *British Army Review*; and from Mr. Caudwell the *Journal of Health* for May.

The *Musical Monthly* has reached its fifth number, and improves with each succeeding part. With the present number is given "The Voice of the Morning," a full-sized piece of music with the words. The *Autographic Mirror*, which is a bi-monthly publication, has reached its seventh number. It equals in interest its predecessors, both as regards the letters and documents it publishes and the sketches it reproduces. In the present number we have two sketches by the late Mr. Thackeray, and one by Rowlandson.

We have received No. 2 of the *Southern Monthly Magazine*, published by Messrs. Creighton and Scales of Auckland, New Zealand; *Consumption in Australia*: a Review, by W. Thompson; Macniven and Cameron's *Paper Trade Review*; and a large thick pamphlet, containing many interesting diagrams, from Mr. Hardwicke, *On the Economical Use of Fuel and the Prevention of Smoke in Domestic Fire-Places, with Observations on the Patent Laves*, by Frederick Edwards, jun.—From Mr. Ridgway we have *A Woman's Example and a Nation's Work, a Tribute to Florence Nightingale*; from the Book Dépôt of the Training College, Westminster, we have five large sheets of *Johnson's Picture History of England, together with Key*, pictures that appear to us of rather a doubtful kind, and look more like enlargements of Zadkiel's frontispiece to his almanac than anything educational; and from J. S. Laurie's admirable standard series of educational books, *The Standard Writing Exercise-Books*, adapted to Standards I., II., III., IV., and V. of the Revised Code, published by Mr. Murly, and by Messrs. Simpkin and Marshall; also his *Manual of Elementary Geography*, in preparing which "his primary aim has been to present, in a compact form, a simple and attractive view of the world." In this, as in all his educational efforts, he has been perfectly successful.

We have just received the current quarterly number of M^{me}. Demorest's *Mirror of Fashions and Journal du Grand Monde*, in large folio, with "a double mammoth-coloured fashion-plate, new braid patterns, nearly 100 woodcuts, six full-size cut patterns, &c.," published at New York for 25 cents—about the biggest and cheapest fashion-book ever printed. It consists, besides, of eight closely-printed pages of four columns each, filled with letter-press confined to the subject-matter of its illustrations.

We have also received the second part of Mr. Nimmo's *Tercentenary Edition of the Complete Works of William Shakespeare*, and are glad to find that this cheap, correct, and elegantly-printed edition of the poet enjoys its full share of popularity; Part V. of *Dalziel's Illustrated Arabian Nights' Entertainments*, with eleven clever cuts after A. B. Houghton and T. Dalziel; and Part III. of *Dalziel's Illustrated Goldsmith*, which brings the "Vicar of Wakefield" down to the arrest of Mr. Primrose, after the fire and the return of the penitent Olivia, with ten "speaking" cuts from G. J. Pinwell's designs, one of which, the "Philosophic Vagabond," George, playing his flute to a Flemish peasant family to "procure his night's lodging and subsistence for the next day," is a most charming and touching picture.

PUBLICATIONS OF THE WEEK.

AHN'S (Dr. F.) Practical Grammar of the German Language, with a Grammatical Index and Glossary of all the German Words. A New Edition, containing numerous Additions, Alterations, and Improvements, by Dawson W. Turner, D.C.L., and Frederick L. Weinmann. Cr. 8vo., pp. cxii+430. *Trübner*. 5s.

ALLAN (James McGregor). Father Stirling. Two Volumes. Post 8vo. *Newby*. 21s.

ARNOT (Rev. William). Roots and Fruits of the Christian Life; or, Illustrations of Faith and Obedience. New Edition. Cr. 8vo., pp. 430. *Nelson*. 7s. 6d.

BINGLEY (Thomas). Bible Quadrupeds: the Natural History of the Animals mentioned in Scripture. New Edition. Illustrated. 16mo., pp. 188. *Altman*. 2s.

BINGLEY (Thomas). Stories about Dogs; illustrative of their instinct, sagacity, and fidelity. With Plates. New Edition. 16mo., pp. xii+192. *Altman*. 2s.

BINGLEY (Thomas). Tales about Birds, illustrative of their nature, habits, and instincts. Illustrated. New Edition. 16mo., pp. 198. *Altman*. 2s.

BINGLEY (Thomas). Tales about Travellers, their Perils, Adventures, and Discoveries. Illustrated. New Edition. 16mo., pp. vi+194. *Altman*. 2s.

BROWN (J. H.). Spectroscopy; or, Surprising Spectral Illusions. Showing Ghosts everywhere, and of any Colour. Third Edition. First Series. With Illustrations. 4to. bds. *Griffith and Farran*. 2s.

BROWN (Robert). Gospel of Common Sense; or, Mental, Moral, and Social Science in Harmony with Scriptural Christianity. Fcap. 8vo., pp. 158. *Jackson, Walford, and Hodder*. 3s. 6d.

CALVIN. The Life of John Calvin, "the Man of Geneva." For Young Persons. By the Author of "The Story of Martin Luther," &c., &c. Fcap. 8vo., pp. viii+213. *J. F. Shaw*. 3s. 6d.

CAMPBELL (Colonel Walter). My Indian Journal. With Illustrations. 8vo., pp. xix+484. *Edmonston and Douglas*. 10s.

CASELL'S ILLUSTRATED FAMILY PAPER. Vol. 13. New Series. 4to., pp. viii+416. *Cassell*. 4s. 6d.

CHRONICLES AND MEMORIALS OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND. Chronica Monasterii S. Albani, Historia Anglicana. Edited by Henry Thomas Riley, M.A. Vol. 2. A.D. 1381-1422. Roy. 8vo., hf. bds., pp. xxv+535. *Longman*. 10s.

CHRONICLES AND MEMORIALS OF THE REIGN OF RICHARD I. Vol. 1. Itinerarium Peregrinorum et Gesta Regis Ricardi, auctore, ut videtur, Ricardo, canonico sancte trinitatis Londoniensi. Edited from a MS. in the Library of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, by William Stubbs, M.A. Roy. 8vo., hf. bds., pp. cxcii+468. *Longman*. 10s.

CITY MUSE (The); or, the Poets in Congress: consisting of Original Lays and Lyrics. Edited by William Reid. Fcap. 8vo., pp. viii+216. Manchester: *Abel Heywood, Simpkin*. 2s.

CLARK (Edward L.). Daleth; or, the Homestead of the Nations. Egypt. Illustrated. Roy. 8vo., pp. x+289. *Low*. 21s.

COBBIN (Rev. Ingram, M.A.). Scripture Explained; or, the Bible Dictionary. With a Sketch of the Prophecies, the Historical Events, and Biographical Notices, Tables of Miracles, Parables, &c. Sixth Edition. 18mo., pp. 234. *Knight and Son*. 1s. 6d.

COMMONPLACE PHILOSOPHER (The) in Town and Country. By the Author of "The Recreations of a Country Parson." New Edition. Sm. cr. 8vo., pp. vi+322. *Longman*. 3s. 6d.

CORNER (Julia). No Relations. Two Volumes. Post 8vo. *Newby*. 21s.

DALTON (Rev. Edward). Brief Thoughts on the Things of God and the Soul, in Words of One Syllable; for each Day in Two Months. New Edition, revised. 32mo., pp. 247. *Dalton and Lucy*. 1s. 6d.

DELAMOTTE (F.). Examples of Modern Alphabets, Plain and Ornamental, for the Use of Draughtsmen, Surveyors, &c., &c. Second Edition. Obg. *Lockwood*. 4s.

DISRAELI (Right Hon. Benjamin). Revolutionary Epick. Sm. post 8vo., pp. xii+176. *Longman*. 5s.

DOUGLAS (James). Progressive English Reader. Fifth Book. 12mo., pp. 256. Edinburgh: *Black, Simpkin*. 2s.

DRAPER (John William, M.D., LL.D.). History of the Intellectual Development of Europe. Two Volumes. 8vo., pp. xxiv+844. *Bell and Daldy*. 21s.

EDINBURGH UNIVERSITY CALENDAR (The) for the Year 1864-65. Cr. 8vo., bds., pp. 237. Edinburgh: *MacLachlan and Stewart*. *Simpkin*. 2s. 6d.

EVANS (Alfred Bowen, D.D.). Future of the Human Race. Lectures delivered during the Season of Advent. Second Edition. Fcap. 8vo., cl. sd., pp. 62. *Skeffington*. 1s. 6d.

EVANS (Rev. J. C., M.A.). Boy's First and Progressive Verse Book, adapted for Beginners. Part 3. Second Edition. 12mo., pp. xli+194. *Williams*. 4s.

FERGUSON (A.). Life's Byeways, and What I Found in Them; being Narratives from Real Life. With a Preface by the Rev. C. H. Spurgeon. With Illustrations. Second Edition. Fcap. 8vo., pp. viii+181. *Nisbet*. 2s. 6d.

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JUST READY.

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THE READER.

21 MAY, 1864.

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MISCELLANEA.

THE Prizes and Medals of the Society of Arts are to be presented by the Prince of Wales, the President of the Society, on the 24th of June, at Willis's Rooms.

MESSRS. SMITH, ELDER, & Co. announce a new novel, "Wanted a Home," by the author of "Morning Clouds." Mr. Bentley will publish "Breakers Ahead," a novel, in two volumes; Messrs. Low, Son, and Marston "Straitheairn," a novel, by Charles Alston Collins; Messrs. Saunders, Otley, and Co. "Velvet Lawn," a novel, by Charles Felix; and Messrs. Tinsley Brothers have now ready "Maurice Dering," by the author of "Guy Livingstone," and "Guy Waterman," by the author of "Abel Drake's Wife." They also announce "From Pillar to Post," a novel.

MESSRS. SOTHEY, WILKINSON, & HODGE will sell by auction on Tuesday next the first portion of the private library of the late Mr. J. Bowyer Nichols, the no less eminent printer and publisher than eminent antiquary and topographer, whose death at the age of eighty-four we recorded in THE READER in October last. The library, as may be anticipated, is one of the richest in works connected with English antiquities and topography that have been brought to the hammer for the last fifty years, besides which it is no less conspicuous for the large number of privately-printed books, many of which are memorials of the friendship and esteem of men of whose esteem every man must feel or have felt proud. As to topographical drawings by celebrated artists, at the end of the catalogue is a series of ninety-two large folio volumes, arranged under counties, of prints and drawings, the latter of which alone number some 6600. The same gentlemen will sell on the 1st of June, immediately after the dispersion of M. Libri's celebrated collection of works of Mediæval and Renaissance art and virtu, mentioned amongst our Art Notes, some valuable Patristic and other manuscripts, amongst the most curious of which is an Autograph MS. of the Gregorialis of Alulfus, of St. Martin's of Tournay.

MISS THACKERAY'S "Story of Elizabeth," translated into Dutch by M. Busken Huet, will be published in a few days by Funke of Amsterdam.

THE skull of Confucius, which many of our readers will recollect as one of the most attractive objects in the Chinese Court of the Exhibition, and which was part of the loot of Fane's cavalry from the Summer Palace of the Emperor of China, was sold by auction on Wednesday last by Messrs. Christie, Manson, & Woods, amongst some other articles of art collected by the late Lord Elgin in China and Japan. The skull itself, lined with pure gold, is placed on a triangular stand of the same metal, and rests on three very roughly-shaped gold heads. The cover, richly ornamented, is also of pure gold, and studded with precious stones. Whether the skull be that of Confucius or not, it is evidently a sacred relic, and not a drinking-cup, as has been surmised. It was bought by Mr. Benjamin of Glasshouse Street for £327.

THE inaugural dinner of the Newspaper Press Fund takes place at Freemasons' Hall to-day, under the Presidency of Lord Houghton. The Fund, at first of a provident character, has recently been placed upon the same basis as kindred charities of other professions which do not object to receive aid from sources beyond their own immediate circles. The institution has for its President Lord Houghton, and the long list of vice-presidents includes the names of the Lord Chancellor, the Earl of Carlisle, the Archbishop of Dublin, the Earl of Clarendon, the Bishop of Oxford, Sir E. Bulwer Lytton, Mr. Disraeli, Sir J. Emerson Tennent, Lord John Manners, Sir Archibald Alison, Mr. Thomas Hughes, Mr. Beresford Hope, Mr. Justice Haliburton, Sir C. Eastlake, Mr. Mark Lemon, Mr. Shirley Brooks, Sir W. Heathcote, Sir Hugh Cairns, and many others.

Two reprints of Shakespeare have made their appearance within the last few days—"The Dramatic Works," in four volumes, duodecimo, as edited by William Hazlitt, or, in five volumes, with the addition of the doubtful plays, published by Messrs. Routledge; and the "Complete Works," plays and poems, with life by Mary Cowden Clarke, in two volumes, duodecimo, published by Mr. Nimmo of Edinburgh. The fourth

volume of the "Cambridge Shakespeare" has also just been issued by Messrs. Macmillan and Co., the fifth volume of which, completing the Histories, will appear in August. The edition being chiefly hermeneutical, the publishers are preparing an exegetical commentary as a companion to it.

ENGLISH words are creeping gradually into the German language. At Hamburg there has just appeared "Essays, wissenschaftlichen und literarischen Inhalts, von H. Holland: aus dem Englischen von B. Althaus." We recently noticed that "stationery" had also been adopted.

THE Rev. Mr. H. M. Searth's "Aque Solis, Notices of Roman Bath; being a Description of all the Roman Remains which have been found in and around the City up to the present time," will shortly be published, in one volume quarto, with two maps and fifty illustrations by Mr. Peach of Bath. The work will contain all that has been published by the Society of Antiquaries, Dr. Musgrave, Dr. Sutherland, Dr. Guidot, Lysons, Warner, Carter, and others who have written on the Roman antiquities of Bath, and also whatever has been discovered since their time. An account of the Roman villas the sites of which have been found in the neighbourhood of Bath, a notice of the Roman roads which passed out of the city, and the camps and earthworks in its neighbourhood, will be interesting additions to our topographical knowledge of Roman Britain.

THE "Report of the Religious Tract Society," just issued, shows receipts for 1863 (inclusive of balance in hand) £107,806. 15s. 7d., against expenditure £106,904. 5s. 8d., thus enabling the Society to carry about £1000 to its reserved fund. The total amount of tracts issued by the Society during the past year amounted to 43,281,100. In round numbers, since its formation the Society has issued 1,540,000,000 tracts. Amongst other grants of 1863, one of £9000 has been made to France for the circulation of tracts.

IN the celebrations of the Tercentenary Hungary has not been behindhand. Even in the smallest provincial towns, such as Debreczin, Szegedin, Arad, &c., festive performances marked the great epoch. The naturalization of Shakespeare in Hungary dates from Kazinczy's translation of "Hamlet," and twenty years ago Vörösmart, Petöfy, and Arany combined to edit a complete translation of Shakespeare, the execution of which, however, was interrupted by the Revolution. Not more than twelve pieces have as yet been finished, but there is every reason to hope that the rest will soon be completed.

THE Hungarian and Transylvanian Reformed Church is about to celebrate, besides Calvin's Tercentenary, also that of the Synod, which took place in 1564, under John Sigismund, at Enyed, where the division between the Lutherans and Calvinists in Hungary was first brought about.

MESSRS. HURST AND BLACKETT'S translation, by M. A. Baillot, of Victor Hugo's "Shakespeare" was published on Saturday.

"THE Ferry-Boy and the Financier," by the author of "A Trip to Washington," which has just been published by Messrs. Walker, Wise, & Co., of Boston, U.S., contains the life of the Hon. S. P. Chase, the United States Secretary of the Treasury, "the main facts of the narrative being vouched for by himself." He was the son of a poor farmer, and the story of his early life and adventures "down east," and in the "far west," has scarcely its equal in any work of fiction.

ON Whit-Monday 31,107 persons visited the Zoological Gardens in the Regent's Park—the largest number ever recorded in one day since the opening of the Gardens.

THE number of visitors to the British Museum in 1863 was less than half the return of 1862, the year of the International Exhibition.

MISS FAITHFULL has just published the paper read by Vice-Chancellor Wood at the Manchester Church Congress, on Parochial Mission Women.

THE Junior Carlton Club has secured two houses at the bottom of St. James's Street capable of being converted into one. The Club is now completed, and the Hon. Robert Best is secretary.

"SHAKESPEARE: par A. F. Rio," is a French addition to our Shakespeariana, published by Messrs. Burns and Lambert.

OF the first edition of Renan's "Vie de Jésus" only 1500 copies were struck off, the author and publishers only anticipating a limited sale amongst scholars.

OF recent deaths in the literary world abroad we have to record that of Jules Lecomte, editor of the *Monde Illustré*; of Gustav Reisewitz, author of "Cantures," "Bosporus and Africa," and other travels; of Dr. Vogel, physician to Charles Augustus of Weimar, and physician and

friend of Goethe, and editor of the correspondence between these two.

"No Smoke without a Fire" is the title of a "Proverb" by the Duke de Morny, lately performed in the salons of the Princess Mathilde.

THE Emperor of the French has subscribed personally for several copies of the Bollandists' "Acta Sanctorum," in addition to the thirty copies taken by the Minister of Public Instruction.

THE French Minister of Marine has decided upon the foundation of a new literary collection to be called "Archives de Médecine Navale," under the editorship of Le Roy de Méricourt.

IN the new piece "Hector," by Victor Sardou, the part of the page has been especially written for Madame Dejazet, now seventy years of age.

WE learn from the Dutch booksellers' circular that Victor Hugo received from the firm of Verboeckhoven & Co. in Brussels the sum of 50,000 francs for his "William Shakespeare;" the right of property, however, returning to the author in two years.

THE following characteristic passage occurred in Robert Prutz's festive poem in honour of Shakespeare, spoken at the Stettin Theatre:—

Ja, stolzes England,
 Wohl hast du Grund dich deines Glücks zu freun,
 Und dich zu sonnen in des Ruhmes Glanz.

Doch kommt der Tag, vielleicht bricht er schon an,
 Da werden Recht und Freiheit, gleich der Luft,
 Die unser Athem trinkt, gemeinsam seyn
 Jedwem Volke, gross und klein, auf Erden,
 Und auch der Deutsche tritt sein Erbtheil an.
 Dann sieh dich vor, o stolzes England,
 Dass nicht die Säulen deines Ruhmes brechen,
 Und deines Reichthums schwelend Horn sich nicht
 Mit eckler Asche füllt. . . .

SHAKESPEARE'S relation to music forms the subject of an essay in the Vienna *Recensionen*, from which we extract the following items:—Instrumental music is found in connexion with Shakespeare's works in the dead march (act i., scene 1) of "Henry IV.," further, in the "Midsummer Night's Dream" and "Tempest," in "Henry VIII." (act i., scene 1) and "As You Like It" (act v., scene 4). No less frequently does vocal music occur. Witness the songs of Ophelia, the duet between Guiderius and Arviragus in "Cymbeline," the song in "Much Ado About Nothing," those in "As You Like It," the duet in "The Merchant of Venice" (act iii., scene 2), &c. That Shakespearian pieces have been used as librettos for operas is well known—e.g., "Romeo and Juliet," by Zingarelli, Vaccai, and Bellini; "Othello," by Rossini; "Macbeth," by Chelard, Verdi, and Taubert; "The Merry Wives of Windsor," by Nicolai, Balfe ("Falstaff"), Adam, and previously by Salieri ("Falstaff o le trè burle"); "Coriolanus," by Nicolini; "Hamlet," by Buzzola (even as a ballet!); "The Tempest," by Reichardt, Zumsteg, Jullien, Sullivan. Besides these, there were composed "musics" to "Macbeth" by Locke (1657); and choruses to the same by Gallus. Arne (1750) wrote music to "The Merchant of Venice" and "Tempest," Mendelssohn to "Midsummer Night's Dream," Taubert to the "Tempest," Tausch and André to "As You Like It." Of orchestral works founded on Shakespeare we mention "Romeo and Juliet," a dramatic symphony, by H. Berlioz; overtures to the same by Steibelt and Ilinski. There are overtures to "Hamlet" by Gade, Liszt, and Joachim, and a march by Pierson. To the "Tempest" overtures have been written by Rietz, Hager, and Vierling, to "Macbeth" by Spohr and Pearsall, for "King Lear" by Berlioz, for "Julius Cæsar" by Schumann, for the "Two Gentlemen of Verona" by Street, for "King John" by Radecke, for "Coriolanus" by B. A. Weber (Beethoven's overture of the same title was intended for Collins's piece), for "Othello" by C. Müller, &c. Entr'actes and "battle-music" to several of the pieces were done by Emil Titl, and Kuhlau, finally, denominated an overture, "William Shakespeare."

AUSTRIA consumes, according to official calculations, annually 500,000 cwt. of paper, the German Zollverein 1,000,000, France 5,000,000, and England 15,000,000; while the rest of the civilized and uncivilized world consumes 10,000,000; there are thus altogether 31 or 32 millions cwt. of paper wanted per annum.

ONE of the most extraordinary sensations is a ballet-dancer (male) with one leg only, who is nightly "bringing the house down" at the Josefstädter Theatre in Vienna. The phenomenon's name is Donato, and Italy is his native place.

THERE is about to appear "Album von Ost-Asien"—30 folio sheets of coloured photographs by A. Petermann and F. Wolff, the latter a member of the Prussian Expedition to Eastern Asia.

THE READER.

21 MAY, 1864.

OF novelties in the German drama we have "Zu alt und zu Jung," by A. Hirsch; and "Drei Neffen, oder Vetter Gustav," by Schraishorn—both comedies.

DR. HEINRICH KURZ, the author of an extensive work on German literature, addresses himself, in the *Börsenblatt*, to all German publishers of lyrical, epical, and dramatical works since 1830, begging them to send him a copy of every work of this description which has been issued by them for the last thirty-six years, in order to enable him to be as explicit about the latest productions as he has been about the former ones in the four previous volumes of his work, which come down to the death of Goethe.

As a further sign of religious toleration in Russia may be mentioned the fact of the Synod of St. Petersburg having allowed the population of the Baltic provinces confessing the Greek faith henceforth to hold their service in the German language. Further, the rewards which were hitherto paid by the Ministry of War to Jews and Mohammedans embracing Christianity have been abolished.

THE National Museum at Moscow has published photographic copies of Greek initials from the twelfth to the fourteenth century, taken from MSS. in the library of the Moscow Synod. The text consists chiefly of hymns to the Holy Virgin, the initials of which are adorned with figures of quadrupeds, birds, serpents, and other creatures. All the letters of the Greek alphabet are represented and ornamented in this fashion. The photographs always show the first word after the initials, so that there is material furnished also for archaeological studies of caligraphy.

THE "Extraordinary Commission of the Polish National Government" a few days ago addressed a letter to the editor of the new Paris paper, the *White Eagle*, in which the following characteristic passage occurs:—"The National Government, which is the expression of the national spirit, is not a rule of persons or parties. Nobody knows them; nobody knows how they are constituted. This secret is the necessary result not only of the condition of the country, but also of the mission of Poland, which could not assemble under a single known flag. The persons who constitute the Government *must change*; and *they do change*; but the idea which they represent remains unshaken and pure. Under this great flag of regenerated Poland there is room enough for all parties, with the sole condition that no one can enter this sanctuary of a nation creating itself anew with his old gods. They have to be left on the threshold."

THE Strasburg Library has acquired a valuable lot of books and MSS. put up for sale at Leipsic, containing, among other things, a number of MSS. by Grandidier, consisting chiefly of valuable documents arranged by the Alsatian historian, together with materials for a third volume of his "Histoire de l'Eglise et des Princes Evêques de Strasbourg." There are, further, sixty-seven authentic documents belonging to the 12th-14th century; 400 others from the 14th-17th, mostly copied by Grandidier himself (with notes); further, the copy of a MS. of the Berne Library, sent to the Cardinal de Rohan by the Council of the Hundred of Berne; a copy of a MS. of the thirteenth century, also with Grandidier's notes, entitled "Statuta Civitatis Argentinensis;" and, finally, a very large quantity of notes and materials towards a history of Alsacia.

CORRESPONDENCE.

(Anonymous Communications cannot be inserted.)

"IT IS ME."

To the Editor of THE READER.

Hampstead, May 17th, 1864.

SIR,—As one who has taken a leading part in the controversy on the Queen's English, I ask permission to say a few words relative to the much disputed phrase *it is me*.

The question of the correctness or the incorrectness of the phrase is, like many another question, one of great simplicity in itself, but one which has been complicated by the expressions of the extreme opinions of those who have written on it; the one class of writers maintaining that it can never be correct, the other that its use is allowable on all occasions. It appears to me that the truth lies between the two. A speaker, or a writer, who is in doubt whether to use, in a particular sentence, *it is I* or *it is me*, ought to ask himself, "Does the sense require the pronoun to be in the nominative case or in the accusative?" If in the former, then, clearly, he must say *it is I*; but if in the latter, it is equally certain that he must say *it is me*. Each of the expressions is

correct, but they must not be used indiscriminately. If I should be asked "Who is it that is spoken of as Dean Alford's censor?" I must answer "*It is I*" (who am so spoken of). But, if the question should be put thus—"Of whom does Dean Alford speak as his censor?" the answer must be "*It is me*" (of whom he speaks). He speaks of *me*. We cannot say "He speaks of *I*." It would be as absurdly ungrammatical to answer the latter question by saying *It is I*, as it would be to answer the former question by saying *It is me*.

This distinction between the requirements of the nominative case and of the accusative appears to have been overlooked by my opponent in his remarks on the letter which he sent inviting me to Canterbury, and which you quoted in THE READER of the 30th ultimo. He is speaking of the phrase at present under consideration; and, addressing his numerous critics, he says, "I wrote a letter inviting the chief of you to come to Canterbury and hear my third lecture. I wrote in some fear and trembling. All my adverbs were (what I should call) misplaced, that I might not offend him. But at last I was obliged to transgress, in spite of my good resolutions. I was promising to meet him at the station, and I was going to write: 'If you see on the platform an old party in a shovel, that will be I.' But my pen refused to sanction (to endorse, I believe I ought to say, but I cannot) the construction. 'That will be me' came from it, in spite, as I said, of my resolve of the best possible behaviour." It is evident, from the foregoing, that Dean Alford believed that, as I objected to his saying "He is wiser than *me*," I should object also to his saying "That will be *me*." A most strange inference to draw, certainly; for it really amounts to this—that, because I objected to the use of a pronoun in the accusative case when the sense required one in the nominative, I should wish a pronoun in the nominative case to be used when the sense required one in the accusative! It is very evident that my opponent's confession, of his never having studied the works of the principal writers on the grammar of the English language, is but too true; or he would not have believed he was saying something contrary to the rules of that grammar when, in the sentence I have quoted, he said, "that will be *me*." For, what is that sentence? "If you see on the platform 'an old party in a shovel' that will be *me*" [whom you will see]. You will see *me*. The sentence is perfectly correct. Had the Dean's sentence run thus—"There will be, to meet you on the platform, 'an old party in a shovel,'" he must have finished it—"that will be *I*." To have said "that will be *me*" would then have been equivalent to saying "*me* will be the old party in the shovel!"

I apologize for intruding upon your valuable space, but to strive for the maintenance of the existing distinctions between the nominative case and the accusative is, it seems to me, to defend the language against the incursions of the Goths and Vandals of literature; whereas to allow the indiscriminate use of such expressions as *it is I* and *it is me* is to sanction the destruction of the time-honoured barriers of that language, in order to meet the imbecility of dunces.—I am, &c.,

G. WASHINGTON MOON.

SCIENCE.

OUR NATURAL HISTORY COLLECTIONS.

LAST week we endeavoured to place before our readers a short account of the controversy respecting the best mode of providing further accommodation for the several collections of art, science, and literature now assembled together under one roof in the British Museum, and to show why, looking to the interests of science, it seemed best that the matter should be allowed to terminate in the way proposed by the Government—namely, by the removal of the Natural History collections to some other quarter. We urged that the claims of these collections to occupy an independent position were now fully acknowledged by all parties, but that, so long as they remained subject to the rule of the trustees in Bloomsbury, there was little hope of their extrication from the subordinate position there assigned to them. An examination of the accounts of the income and expenditure of the British Museum for the past financial year, which has been recently issued for the information of the House of Commons, induces us to return to

this subject, as it will be readily seen by reference to them how completely our remarks as to the unfair treatment experienced by the Natural History collections in their present position are verified by facts.

The collections at present assigned to the care of the trustees in Bloomsbury belong, it will be recollected, to three different categories. They embrace a Public Library, a series of collections of Objects of Art, and a series of collections of Objects of Natural History. The general complaint against the fifty noblemen and gentlemen who are entrusted with the government of the establishment for the benefit of all its parts alike, is that they do not sufficiently attend to the two latter branches of it, but, led away, no doubt, by the seductive influence of their secretary and chief executive officer, suffer the art-collections and the science-collections to be starved for the benefit of the public library.

With regard to the science-collections, of which we wish to speak in particular in the present instance, by reference to the tables of expenditure of the British Museum for the past year, given in the Parliamentary paper above spoken of, it may be easily seen that this is really the case. Under the third head of expenditure, "Purchases and Acquisitions," it will be found that the sum devoted to the purchase of printed books during the past year was rather more than £10,000; and it must be recollected that copies of *all* the books published in the United Kingdom are given to the national library by Act of Parliament; so that this expenditure was entirely incurred upon foreign works. On the other hand, the *whole* sum spent in acquisitions for all the various departments of Natural History only amounted to £2630, or thereabouts. Again, taking the fourth head of expenditure, which relates to the preparation of the objects acquired in each department for public use and exhibition, we find that the sum of £8000 was devoted to this purpose as regards the public library; while, in the case of the four Natural History departments together, only about £1100 was employed in the same way. In like manner the sum of £5831 was spent on "Buildings, furniture," &c., for the "Department of Printed Books and MSS." during the same period, whilst the unfortunate Natural History departments—certainly the most inconveniently crowded portions of the whole establishment—were only allowed the sum of £1158 for their further accommodation. Far be it from us to state that the expenditure on the public library is excessive; but we maintain that, considering the large expense of the whole establishment (some £95,000 per annum), much too little in proportion is done for the benefit of the scientific portion of it. Yet the Natural History collections are not only clearly entitled to their fair share of the public funds devoted to this national institution, but are likewise, as is well known, by far the most attractive portions of the establishment to the general public.

We will now say a few words concerning another grievance suffered by the scientific branches of the establishment in Bloomsbury, which has long been a subject of comment amongst men of science, and even of remonstrance with the trustees, without any steps having been taken to remedy it. We allude to the utter inadequacy of the staff of the Natural History departments to discharge the duties entrusted to them. Not as regards qualifications, for we believe that, with scarce an exception, the officers of these departments are well up in the work of their respective branches, and that most of them are naturalists of well-deserved reputation. But their numbers are quite insufficient to keep the collections under their charge at a level with the present rapid advance of scientific discovery. Out of about ninety-three or ninety-four officers engaged in the business of the different departments in the British Museum, only sixteen are assigned to the four departments of Natural History. Of these the superintendent does not interfere in the ordinary work of naming and arranging the specimens, and several of the subor-

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dinates are of comparatively little use as not possessing scientific acquirements. It thus follows that a great proportion of the objects in these departments—we allude more especially to those of Zoology and Botany—are neither properly named nor arranged. The large staff employed in the library renders it easy to have each book, as it is brought in, registered, shelved, and catalogued without delay. But such is not the case with the additions to the series of Natural History. According to a return of the keeper of Zoology, the whole number of specimens in that department amounted in March 1862 to 629,000, and large accessions are received every day. To keep in order, classify, arrange, catalogue, and describe this enormous collection only six naturalists are employed, when at least three times as many might be beneficially engaged upon it. On one unlucky zoologist is devolved the care of some 21,000 birds, to a second is assigned that of some 100,000 shells, to a third that of the whole series of *Articulata*, which has been calculated to embrace upwards of 220,000 described species. Such are the herculean labours expected to be performed by our national staff of naturalists.

Now let us see how far the trustees are inclined to assist these overworked gentlemen by the judicious appointment of fully-qualified assistants when vacancies occur in their ranks. Upon the retirement of Mr. Adam White, a well-known and hard-working entomologist, which took place about eighteen months ago, the trustees selected as his successor a "transcriber from the printed book department." So much indignation was excited by this exercise of patronage that the matter has been taken up by the scientific societies of the metropolis, which are not usually prone to interfere in such cases. At a meeting of the Entomological Society held last summer, when this appointment first became known, it was unanimously resolved:—

That the nomination in the place of Mr. Adam White of a gentleman previously employed as a transcriber in the Printed-Book Department of the Museum, and entirely unknown as an entomologist, cannot but prove a great detriment to the progress of the classification of the collection, and is virtually a waste of public money, and that such nomination is the more objectionable as several competent entomologists were candidates for the post.

But the remonstrance was quite thrown away upon the trustees and their secretary, and we believe that they did not even deign to reply to it, except by reprimanding such of the officers of the Museum as were members of the society in question and present at the meeting. As, however, the Council of the Entomological Society have recently presented a petition to the House of Commons on the subject, it is pretty certain that, when the estimates for the British Museum are voted, the trustees will have to give some explanation of this proceeding.

But the real evil of the whole affair lies, in fact, in this—that the rulers of the British Museum are an irresponsible corporation, composed of divers archbishops, peers, privy councillors, and other dignitaries, who have other more important matters to attend to than the interests of the institution of which they are trustees, and naturally enough leave matters pretty much in the hands of their secretary, who is at the same time the "principal librarian." As principal librarian he of course considers the claims of the library far greater than those of any other branch of the establishment. Were Professor Owen in Mr. Panizzi's place, things, no doubt, would be just reversed—the science—collections would be well attended to, and the library little cared for. It is quite evident that no one individual can be found qualified to be chief executive officer of the art-collections, the science-collections, and the public library all at once. It is, we repeat, for this reason, and because it will do away with these anomalies, that we are inclined to favour the Government plan of removing the Natural

History collections altogether, and of establishing them elsewhere in an independent situation as a National Museum of Natural History.

CAHOURS ON THE RESPIRATION OF FRUITS.

SOME new facts have been added to our knowledge on this interesting branch of vegetable physiology by M. Cahours in a paper which he laid before the Académie des Sciences on the 14th of March. The subject has been previously investigated by Th. De Saussure (*Mém. Soc. Genève*, i., 1821) and Bérard (*Ann. Chim. Phys.*, xvi., 1821), who, however, confined their attention more particularly to the changes which the fruit undergoes while still unripe. M. Cahours, as we shall see, follows rather a different course, and observes with much truth that the present state of vegetable physiology renders it necessary that we should study minutely the gaseous products of all the organs of the plant and not confine our attention to a few of them. Amongst the most important of these organs is the fruit, the chemical changes in which during the various periods of its existence have been so well described by Decaisne and Fremy, Bérard, and others. After it has arrived at maturity there is, however, another period during which its vitality is preserved by respiration. The method of experimentation pursued in these researches is very simple, and consists in ascertaining (1) the proportion and composition of the gases contained in the parenchyma of the pericarp; (2) the action of the fruit upon the air of respiration, oxygen, both in a pure state and when mixed with nitrogen; (3) the action of the same gas upon each of the envelopes of the fruit, and also upon the fleshy part when it is present. With these objects in view, M. Cahours has ascertained that apples, oranges, and citrons, when placed in a perfectly ripe state, under a glass containing pure oxygen, a mixture of oxygen and nitrogen in which the former predominates, and, finally, atmospheric air, respire by consuming a portion of the oxygen, and furnish in return a sensibly equivalent amount of carbonic acid. The proportion of the latter gas is always greater in diffused light than in darkness. Up to a certain point the change takes place gradually, after which it becomes more rapid, and the internal face of the skin which touches the fruit is found to have undergone an alteration. We may remark that this has already been stated in general terms by Bérard (*loc. cit.*, p. 180). If the experiment be carried on in diffused light or in the dark, the quantity of carbonic acid increases with an elevation in temperature of the surrounding medium. During the interval comprised between the point of perfect ripeness and the period at which decomposition sets in, the fruit acts upon the air in the same manner as it does from the time that it loses its green colour until it is fully ripened. When decomposition has once commenced, the proportion of carbonic acid increases very rapidly, and the case then becomes one in which organized matter, having lost its vital power, is altered by exposure to the atmosphere. If, however, the experiment be stopped when the fruit begins to soften, but before the epidermis is attacked, the expressed juice contains a larger quantity of gas which is also richer in carbonic acid.

In order to ascertain the quantity of gas dissolved in the juices of different fruits he used a glass vessel of known capacity, to the neck of which was adapted a recurved tube. This vessel was filled with the juice to be experimented upon, and the quantity of gas was estimated in the usual manner. For more convenient reference we have placed M. Cahours' results in the following tabular form:—

Names of Fruits.	Total Vol. of Gas.	Carbonic Acid.	Nitrogen.	Carbonic Acid.	Nitrogen.
Oranges . . .	8	6.4	1.6	80	20
Citrons . . .	6	4.2	1.8	70	30
Pomegranates .	5	3.5	1.5	70	30
Pears . . .	less	less	less
Apples . . .	3	1.2 1.35	1.8 1.65	40 45	60 55

In this table the second column gives the percentage by vol. of gas contained in the expressed juice, the third and fourth columns show the constituents of this gas with reference to the vol. of juice experimented upon, and the fifth and sixth columns give the percentages as compared with the bulk of gas submitted to analysis. The results of the experiment upon the pears are not given, but the gas obtained was less than in the previous case, as was also the proportion of car-

bonic acid. The most delicate tests failed to indicate the presence of either oxygen, hydrogen, carbonic oxide, or carburetted hydrogen. Great care was taken in the selection of the different fruits, which were all perfectly ripe and sound. "What," asks M. Cahours, "is the origin of the gases thus obtained from the juices of fruits? Are they derived from the atmosphere, the oxygen of which, passing through the skin by endosmose, induces a slow combustion, with the formation of carbonic acid? or is this the result of fermentation which takes place in the juice itself when the fruit has arrived at maturity? The latter hypothesis seems the more probable. It will be interesting to study the composition of the gases contained in the juice of fruit of different species at the various stages of their development—a work which I hope to undertake during the approaching season."

Since the above was written the subject has again been brought before the Academy by M. Chatin, whose experiments in the main confirm those of M. Cahours. M. Chatin points out that the gases of ripe fruits were shown by Fremy in 1844 to consist solely of nitrogen and carbonic acid. This is not strictly correct, since in one instance he found 2 per cent. of oxygen (*Comptes-Rendus*, xix., p. 786). The proportion of gas obtained from the juices of various fruits was found by M. Chatin to vary from 2 to 11 per cent., which gas contained from 23 to 99 per cent. of carbonic acid, the remainder in all cases being nitrogen.

As to the origin of the carbonic acid produced during the interval between perfect ripeness and the commencement of decomposition, M. Chatin holds a different opinion. He ascribes it to the decomposition of the tannoid matters contained in the fruit, but at the same time admits that there are certain objections to this view.

In a subsequent paper on the same subject M. Cahours gives some additional experiments proving, in a conclusive manner, that the carbonic acid is produced solely in the fruit itself, and is not due to a slow combustion, during which the oxygen of the air is consumed. He took twelve oranges, differing but little in weight or condition, and submitted half of them to the action of a press. The gas obtained from the expressed juice was analyzed, and found to contain a far less proportion of carbonic acid than did that obtained from the other six which had been allowed to remain for twelve days in an atmosphere of nitrogen. A similar experiment with apples showed the same discrepancy between the proportion of carbonic acid gas, but to a less marked degree—a result which might have been anticipated from the analysis given in the table above. "We thus see," says M. Cahours, "that in a medium from which oxygen is entirely absent a continuous formation of carbonic acid occurs, the parenchyma at the same time showing no signs of decomposition. It follows, therefore, that under these conditions a perfectly regular change takes place in the interior of the fruit." "M. Chatin attributes this production of carbonic acid to the decomposition of the tannoid substances contained in the fruit—a phenomenon which takes place more particularly during *bletting* and rotteness. This method of accounting for the formation of the gas is to a certain extent reasonable when the experiment, is carried on in atmospheric air or oxygen, but how can we admit that the fruit in its normal state gives rise to carbonic acid by the decomposition of its tannoid constituents in an atmosphere of nitrogen or hydrogen?"

The concluding paper by M. Fremy contains a *résumé* of the whole subject and an attempt to reconcile the difference of opinion which exists between the two other authors. The life of the fruit may be divided into three well-marked periods, viz.:—1. The period of *development*, during which it is generally of a green colour, and acts upon the air in the same manner as the leaves, decomposing carbonic acid, when under the influence of solar light, and disengaging oxygen. 2. The period of *maturation*, in which the green colour is changed to yellow, brown, or red, and the air is rapidly converted into carbonic acid, slow combustion taking place in the cells of the pericarp. The tannin is destroyed first, then the acids, and, as a rule, the fruit is now in a fit state to be used as food. Light is probably not without influence on these changes; and M. Fremy states that he is at the present time engaged on some experiments in conjunction with M. Edmond Becquerel which tend to show that light has the power of determining the oxidation of several organic bodies. 3. The period of *decomposition*, during which the pericarp is completely destroyed and the seed set at liberty. At this moment air

enters the cells and acts first of all upon the sugar, causing alcoholic fermentation with disengagement of carbonic acid and formation of alcohol, which is in its turn acted upon by the acids of the fruit, thus forming a true ether, which produces the aroma of the fruit. The air then attacks the cell itself, which becomes coloured yellow by the azotized membranes of which it is formed. This is nothing more than *bletting*, to use Dr. Lindley's word, and the air not only destroys the cell itself, but it also oxidizes and destroys certain principles which had resisted the ripening process. It is a well-known fact that medlars are at first very acid and astringent, and are only fit for food when bletted. The decomposition, therefore, of the pericarp begins with fermentation, and, after having passed through the intermediate stage of bletting, ends in the total obliteration of the cellular structure. "It is therefore evident that the carbonic acid evolved during all these transformations is due to oxidation, or, in other words, to a veritable fermentation. In this manner the experiments of M. Cahours and M. Chatin may be reconciled."

PROFESSOR STOKES ON THE DISCRIMINATION OF ORGANIC BODIES BY THEIR OPTICAL PROPERTIES.

At a recent Friday evening meeting of the Royal Institution a method of research which, if we are not mistaken, will go for very much in the Chemistry of the future was brought before the members by Professor Stokes.

The lecturer first dwelt on the great advantage which it would be to chemists to subject the substances which pass through their hands to an optical examination, especially in the case of organic chemistry. Indeed chemists have little conception of the advantage they might derive thereby, the spectral analysis of flames being almost the only application of optics which is in general use.

Two distinct objects may be had in view in seeking for such information as optics can supply relative to the characters of a chemical substance. Among the vast number of substances which chemists have now succeeded in isolating or preparing, and which in many cases have been but little studied, it often becomes a question whether two substances, obtained in different ways, are or are not identical. In such cases an optical comparison of the bodies will either add to the evidence of their identity the force of the additional evidence being greater or less according as their optical characters are more or less marked, or will establish a difference between substances which might otherwise erroneously have been supposed to be identical.

The second object is that of enabling us to follow a particular substance through mixtures containing it, and thereby to determine its principal reactions before it has been isolated, or even when there is small hope of being able to isolate it; and to demonstrate the existence of a common proximate element in mixtures obtained from two different sources.

Setting aside the labour of quantitative determinations carried out by well-recognised methods, the second object is that the attainment of which is by far the more difficult. It involves the methods of examination required for the first object, and more besides; and it is that which is chiefly kept in view in the present discourse.

The optical properties of bodies, properly speaking, include every relation of the bodies to light; but it is by no means every such relation that is available for the object in view. Refractive power, for instance, though constituting, like specific gravity, &c., one of the characters of any particular pure substance, is useless for the purpose of following a substance in a mixture containing it. The same may be said of dispersive power. The properties which are of most use for our object are, first absorption, and secondly fluorescence.

Colour, which has long been employed as a distinctive character of bodies, gives but very imperfect information respecting that property on which the colour depends; for the same tint may be made up in an infinite number of ways from the constituents of white light. In order to observe what it is that the body does to each constituent, we must examine it in a pure spectrum. [The formation of a pure spectrum was then explained, and such a spectrum was formed on a screen by the aid of the electric light.]

To judge from the two examples just given, it might be supposed that the observation of the colour would give almost as much information as analysis by the prism. To show how useful the

spectral analysis of transmitted light may sometimes be, two fluids very similar in colour, port wine and a solution of blood, were then examined. The former merely caused a general absorption of the more refrangible rays; the latter exhibited two well-marked dark bands in the yellow and green. These bands, first noticed by Hoppe, are eminently characteristic of blood, and afford a good example of the facilities which optical examination affords for following a substance which possesses distinctive characters of this nature. On adding to a solution of blood a particular salt of copper (any ordinary copper salt, with the addition of a tartrate to prevent precipitation, and then carbonate of soda), a fluid was obtained utterly unlike blood in colour, but showing the characteristic bands of blood, while at the same time a good deal of the red was absorbed, as it would have been by the copper salt alone. On adding, on the other hand, acetic acid to a solution of blood, the colour was merely changed to a browner red, without any precipitate being produced. Nevertheless, in the spectrum of this fluid the bands of blood had wholly vanished, while another set of bands less intense, but still very characteristic, made their appearance. This alone, however, does not decide whether the colouring matter is decomposed or not by the acid; for, as blood is an alkaline fluid, the change might be supposed to be merely analogous to the reddening of litmus. To decide the question, we must examine the spectrum when the fluid is again rendered alkaline, suppose by ammonia, which does not affect the absorption bands of blood. The direct addition of ammonia to the acid mixture causes a dense precipitate, which contains the colouring matter, which may, however, be separated by the use merely of acetic acid and ether, of which the former was already used, and the latter does not affect the colouring matter of blood. This solution gives the same characteristic spectrum as blood to which acetic acid has been added; but now there is no difficulty in obtaining the colouring matter in an ammoniacal solution. In the spectrum of this solution the sharp absorption bands of blood do not appear, but instead thereof there is a single band a little nearer to the red, and comparatively vague [this was shown on a screen]. This difference of spectra decides the question, and proves that hematin (the colouring matter prepared by acid, &c.) is, as Hoppe stated a product of decomposition.

This example was dwelt on, not for its own sake, but because general methods are most readily apprehended in their application to particular examples. To show one example of the discrimination which may be effected by the prism, the spectra were exhibited of the two kinds of red glass which (not to mention certain inferior kinds) are in common use, and which are coloured, one by gold, and the other by suboxide of copper. Both kinds exhibit a single band of absorption near the yellow or green; but the band of the gold glass is situated very sensibly nearer to the blue end of the spectrum than that of the copper glass.

In the experiments actually shown, a battery of fifty cells and complex apparatus were employed, involving much trouble and expense. But this was only required for projecting the spectra on a screen, so as to be visible to a whole audience. To see them, nothing more is required than to place the fluid to be examined (contained, suppose, in a test-tube) behind a slit, and to view it through a small prism applied to the naked eye, different strengths of solution being tried in succession. In this way the bands may be seen by any one in far greater perfection than when, for the purpose of a lecture, they are thrown on a screen.

In order to be able to examine the peculiarities which a substance may possess in the mode in which it absorbs light, it is not essential that the substance should be in solution and viewed by transmission. Thus, for example, when a pure spectrum is thrown on a sheet of paper painted with blood, the same bands are seen in the yellow and green region as when the light is transmitted through a solution of blood, and the spectrum thrown on a white screen. This indicates that the colour of such a paper is, in fact, due to absorption, although the paper is viewed by reflected light. Indeed, by far the greater number of coloured objects which are presented to us, such as green leaves, flowers, dyed cloths, though ordinarily seen by reflection, owe their colour to absorption. The light by which they are seen is, it is true, reflected, but it is not in reflection that the preferential selection of certain kinds of rays is made which causes the objects to appear coloured.

There are, however, cases in which the different components of white light are reflected with

different degrees of intensity, and the light becomes coloured by regular reflection. Gold and copper may be referred to as examples. In ordinary language we speak of a soldier's coat as red, and gold as yellow. But these colours belong to the substances in two totally different senses. In the former case the colouring is due to absorption, in the latter case to reflection. In the same sense, physically speaking, in which a soldier's coat is red, gold is not yellow, but blue or green. Such is, in fact, the colour of gold by transmission, and therefore as the result of absorption, as is seen in the case of gold leaf, which transmits a bluish green light, or of a weak solution of chloride of gold after the addition of protosulphate of iron, when the precipitated metallic gold remains in suspension in a finely-divided state, and causes the mixture to have a blue appearance when seen by transmitted light. In this case we see that, while the substance copiously reflects and intensely absorbs rays of all kinds, it more copiously reflects the less refrangible rays, with respect to which it is more intensely opaque.

All metals are, however, highly opaque with regard to rays of all colours. But certain non-metallic substances present themselves which are at the same time intensely opaque with regard to one part of the spectrum, and only moderately opaque or even pretty transparent with regard to another part. Carthamine, murexide, platino-cyanide of magnesium may be mentioned as examples. Such substances reflect copiously, like a metal, those rays with respect to which they are intensely opaque, but more feebly, like a vitreous substance, those rays for which they are tolerably transparent. Hence, when white light is incident upon them, the regularly-reflected light is coloured, often vividly, those colours preponderating which the substance is capable of absorbing with intense avidity. But perhaps the most remarkable example known of the connexion between intense absorption and copious reflection occurs in the case of crystals of permanganate of potash, the light reflected from which presents *maxima* corresponding in position to the *minima* of transparency by transmission.

Fluorescence is the second property to which the speaker had referred as usual in tracing substances in impure solutions. The phenomenon of fluorescence consists in this, that certain substances, when placed in rays of one refrangibility, emit during the time of exposure compound light of lower refrangibility. When a pure fluorescent substance (as distinguished from a mixture) is examined in a pure spectrum, it is found that, on passing from the extreme red to the violet and beyond, the fluorescence commences at a certain point of the spectrum, varying from one substance to another, and continues from thence onwards, more or less strongly, in one part or another according to the particular substance. The colour of the fluorescent light is found to be nearly constant throughout the spectrum. Hence, when in a solution presented to us, and examined in a pure spectrum, we notice the fluorescence taking, as it were, a fresh start, with a different colour, we may be pretty sure that we have to deal with a mixture of two fluorescent substances. With a pure substance there is always found to be a most intimate connexion between fluorescence and absorption, so that the distribution of either in the spectrum may be predicted if that of the other is known. Examples were given of the application of these principles.

When a substance possesses well-marked optical properties, it is in general nearly as easy to follow it in a mixture as in a pure solution. But if the problem which the observer proposes to himself be:—Given a solution of unknown substances which presents well-marked characters with reference to different parts of the spectrum, to determine what portion of these characters belong to one substance, and what portion to another, it presents much greater difficulties. It was with reference to this subject that the second of the objects mentioned at the beginning of the discourse had been spoken of as that the attainment of which was by far the more difficult. The problem can, in general, be solved only by combining processes of chemical separation, especially fractional separation, with optical observation. When a solution has thus been sufficiently tested, those characters which are found only to accompany one another, in, as nearly as can be judged, a constant proportion, may, with the highest probability, be regarded as belonging to one and the same substance. But, while a combination of chemistry and optics is in general required, important information may sometimes be obtained from optics alone. This is especially the case when one

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at least of the substances present is at the same time fluorescent and peculiar in its mode of absorption.

To illustrate the application of the principles mentioned in the lecture, the case of chlorophyll was referred to, which M. Fremy had endeavoured to separate into a yellow and a blue substance. The study of the optical properties of the solution shows *a priori* that, if the yellow substance which chlorophyll contains were *wholly* removed, the residue would *not* be blue, but only a bluer green.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES.

THE arrangements for the Archæological Congress for this year, which, as our readers are aware, will be held at Warwick from the 26th of July to the 2nd of August, under the presidency of Lord Leigh, are progressing very satisfactorily. The sections of Mediæval Antiquities, History, and Architecture will be presided over respectively by Dr. Guest Master of Caius College, Cambridge, Dr. Hook Dean of Chichester, and Mr. A. J. B. Beresford Hope. Excursions will be made during the meeting to Stratford-upon-Avon, Kenilworth, Lichfield, and Coventry. We learn, too, that Bath is busy preparing for the British Association meeting, and we hope soon to be able to give some details of what is being done.

At the anniversary meeting of the Royal Geographical Society, to be held at Burlington House next Monday at one o'clock, the Patrons' or Victoria gold medal will be presented to Captain Grant, for his journey from Zanzibar across Eastern Equatorial Africa to Egypt, in company with Captain Speke, and for his contributions to the work of that explorer. The Founder's gold medal will be given to Baron C. von der Decken, for his two surveys of the lofty mountain of Kilimandjaro, which he determined to be capped with snow, and to have an altitude of not less than 20,000 feet. A testimonial has also been awarded by the Geographical Society to the Rev. Gifford Palgrave, for his adventurous journey across Arabia. The annual dinner of the Society will be held on the same day at Willis's rooms, Sir R. I. Murchison, President, in the chair.

THE Ray Society—that first of our publishing societies, and admirable model, we trust, of many societies-to-be—has recently issued another volume which in every respect keeps up its credit. We refer to Part II. of "Blackwall's Spiders of Great Britain and Ireland," which a pressure on our columns prevents us noticing at greater length at present. This volume deals with the *Theridiidae*, *Linyphiidae*, *Epēridae*, *Dysderidae*, and the *Scytodidae*, and is accompanied with seventeen plates of rare beauty. But this is not the only addition to spider-literature. "Histoire Naturelle des Araignées" is the title of a book of some 540 pages octavo, which has just reached us from Paris. We must also defer a critical examination of this work; but it promises well, although we believe the writer, M. Eugène Simon, is one of the youngest of our naturalist-authors, being yet in his teens.

THE President of the Institution of Civil Engineers will hold his annual *Conversazione* on Tuesday, the 31st of May.

WE have already alluded to the extensive investigations undertaken by the German Astronomical Society on the paths of the minor planets. Perhaps no clearer instance of the necessity of this work could hardly be afforded than that of the recent supposed discovery of Sappho by Pogson. At first it was imagined that Concordia was refound. We now learn from the *Monthly Notices* that it was actually another wanderer—Freia—that was observed.

PROFESSOR THOMPSON'S new reflecting galvanometers, which differ from the astatic galvanometer of the ordinary construction in many respects, are thus described in last week's *Electrician*. We hope to give a fuller description of them on a subsequent occasion. "The needle of these instruments is made so light that its weight, including the mirror attached to it, amounts to only a few grains. The coils of the wire are brought extremely near to the magnet, which is thereby much more easily influenced by the electric current. The wire itself is contained on a round bobbin, instead of being wound upon a long frame; and this arrangement is of some importance. The deflection of the needle is only 10 or 12 degrees on each side, and is read by reflection at the distance of about two feet, on a scale divided into 360 parts. By means of this arrangement the angles represent proportional values, which is not the case in the ordinary galvanometer, which reads to 90° on each side. But the needle, although so light and so delicately

suspended, would still have too much directing force to be sensible to very delicate currents; means therefore have been devised to counteract this. In the ordinary astatic galvanometer two needles are combined, one of which swings within the coil, the other above, with poles reversed; the north pole of the one is opposite the south pole of the other. If exactly of equal strength, they will place themselves at right angles to the meridian. But the construction of the reflecting galvanometer does not admit of such contrivance, because the weight would be thereby increased. A comparatively large bar-magnet is attached to the box containing the coil, which may be lowered and raised and turned in any direction. This magnet may be so placed as to counteract the earth's magnetism; and here, according to our present nomenclature, we encounter an apparent paradox. We call the end of the needle attracted by the north pole *north*, although equal poles ought to repel each other. Consequently, in the fixed magnet, which has to counteract the influence of the earth's magnetism, the north pole must be opposite to, or rather pointing in, the same direction as, the north pole of the suspended needle. A little practice will give the facility to make the needle astatic in a few minutes, and within certain limits the instrument can be made as sensitive as one wishes, and with a comparatively short coil the sensitiveness of the instrument is almost incredible."

THE causes of the failure of the Bradfield Reservoir, in spite of all that has been said and written, is a question about which doctors still differ. Mr. Naylor, in a pamphlet of some twenty pages, propounds a theory which we should be glad to see proved; and it is that the accident was caused by a *landslip* of considerable magnitude, and not by any defect in the principle of construction of the embankment itself. We must refer to the pamphlet itself for the data for this statement.

WE have received from Messrs. Williams and Norgate the first part of a "Dictionnaire Général des Sciences," edited by MM. Privat-Deschanel and Ad. Focillon, such men as Barral, Foucault and Marié Davy being among the *collaborateurs*. We have looked through the part, which consists of some 650 pages, and contains A to C inclusive, and we congratulate its conductors upon the very useful manner in which their work is done. Such a dictionary will be of great use to English students of science, who more or less frequently use French manuals.

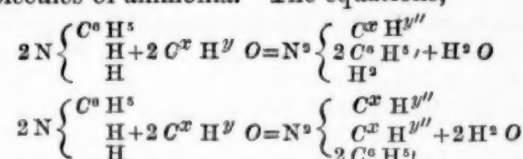
M. GRIMAUD, dealing with M. Peligot's paper on different drainage systems, read at the Paris Academy a little time ago, referred particularly to Leicester, where—O happy town!—the local river runs unpolluted, the death-rate is only about three-quarters of what it was, and the sewage is utilized. It is much to the credit of one of our country towns that its example is bright enough for the municipality of Paris the beautiful to follow—the *Soar* pleading for the *Seine*!

IN the *Receuil de Mémoires et de Médecine Militaire* M. Martinez states that we have a certain means of testing whether or not a person is actually dead by noticing the effect produced by a candle flame or wax match, on a part of the body such as the finger. He asserts that the post-mortem action of heat is to convert the liquids of the body to a state of vapour, which action does not take place before death. Thus, by applying a wax taper very near to the finger of a corpse, and holding it there for a few seconds, the epidermis is raised, and sometimes bursts with a force sufficient to put out the flame.

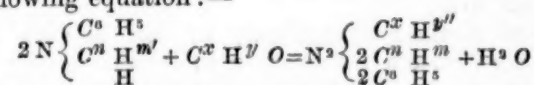
THE hitherto unexplained cause of the redness which accompanies inflammation has been made the subject of investigation by MM. Estor and Saintpierre, who communicated the results of their experiments to the French Academy at a late meeting. A somewhat severe inflammation was induced in one of the posterior members of a dog, either by cauterization or by the application of boiling water, and a known quantity of blood was drawn by a graduated syringe from the crural vein. A similar quantity was also taken from the corresponding healthy limb. This blood was then passed rapidly into a glass receiver inverted over mercury, and containing from twenty to twenty-five cubic centimètres of carbonic oxide. The researches of M. Bernard have shown that this gas displaces the oxygen of the blood, volume for volume, and it therefore only remained to estimate the oxygen, which was done by means of pyrogallie acid, or phosphorus. The carbonic acid was previously absorbed in cases where the former reagent was employed. The conclusions at which the experimenters arrived are shortly as follows:—When the inflammation is acute, the venous blood

of the inflamed limb is redder than that of the healthy limb, and the former always contains more oxygen than the latter, in proportions varying from 1.5 to 2.5 to 1. The venous blood of the inflamed side contains more carbonic acid than that of the corresponding healthy side. Since the red tinge of the blood varies in depth according to the quantity of oxygen which it contains, they conclude that the redness caused by inflammation is owing to the colour of the venous blood in the part affected.

A NEW series of organic bases, obtained by the action of aldehyde on aniline, has been discovered by M. Schiff. Two series of nitrogenized bodies are thus obtained, which are derived from two molecules of ammonia. The equations,



explain the formation of the two new diamides. The members of this series are, it may be seen, isomeric with the bases formed by the action of aniline on bromide of ethylene and its homologues, and we have here the nitrogenized members of two groups, which may be derived either from the glycol-ethers or from the aldehydes. The first the author proposes to call the *ethylenic* series, and the second the *ethylenic* series. He has studied the action of several of the aldehydes on aniline, and is inclined to think that the latter substance may be of service, if not in the detection, at least in confirming the presence of an aldehyde in doubtful cases. It has of late been denied that essence of rue is an aldehyde, which, indeed, is true, since it has no action upon aniline. M. Schiff's experiments have also led to the discovery of a third series, in which the two atoms of basic hydrogen are replaced by three different radicles. The mode of formation is shown by the following equation:—



—thus indicating the existence of a series isomeric with ethylamine and its analogues.

SCIENTIFIC CORRESPONDENCE.

BLOOMSBURY v. BROMPTON.

May 16th, 1864.

I HAVE read with much interest your article on our "National Collections of Natural History," but learnt with dismay your opinion that their removal to the *Ultima Thule* of South Kensington is inevitable. Is it, indeed, too late to avert this fate? I quite agree with you as to the advisability of getting rid of the trustees and Mr. Panizzi; but why, may I ask, would it not be better to send *them* and the library and the art collections to South Kensington, and let Professor Owen and the science collections occupy the space thus vacated? There is next to nothing of a scientific character at South Kensington, while their art collections are really good. The Department of Science and Art does not contain any one man who knows anything of any science whatever, while, I believe, they really do know something of art. The sums granted to that department are chiefly spent on Art; poor Science, although she is placed first, being a long way behind her sister in the regard of the authorities there. The art collections in the British Museum, combined with those in South Kensington, would make a really splendid collection.

As to the library, its removal to South Kensington would at once relieve the reading-room of the plethora of schoolboys and college students whose presence is complained of; while the real students would be able to get lodgings in Brompton, or South Kensington or the neighbourhood, as readily as in Bloomsbury. Literature and Art have at all times been the more natural recipients of court favour and aristocratic patronage than their more work-a-day sister, Science, and would find the western atmosphere of South Kensington more congenial to their nature. The native home of Science is in the thick of the people, amongst earnest workers, alongside the haunts of business, not far from the manufactories, and near the courts of law and Parliament, where her votaries can be always ready to answer practical questions from men who want information or assistance in the realities of life. The amenities, the graces, and the luxuries which merely adorn civilization can afford leisure, and busy men only devote to them their holidays; but the instruction afforded by scientific museums is every year becoming more

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and more a part of their work, and no man's work-shop ought to be rendered more inaccessible to him than can be avoided.

No busy resident in London, nor any one who, like myself, is only an occasional visitant, but much occupied when there, can, without great inconvenience, make a journey to South Kensington. B.

PROCEEDINGS OF FOREIGN ACADEMIES. PARIS.

Académie des Sciences, May 2.—THE following memoirs and communications were read:—Morin—"On the Movement of Water in Canals" (continuation). Boussingault—"On the Disappearance of Combustible Gases mixed with Oxygen during the Slow Combustion of Phosphorus." Bussy and Buignet—"Researches on Hydrocyanic Acid." Fizeau—"Report on M. Janssen's Memoir on the Prismatic Analysis of Solar Light, and of that of several Stars." Houzeau—"Anomaly in the Manifestation of the Properties of Atmospheric Air." Namias—"Considerations on the Infection of the Blood by the Bile." Rambosson—"The Law of Storms, and Practical Deductions therefrom." Dupré—"On Regnault's Law of the Maximum Tension of Vapours." Marignac—"On the Silico-tungstic Acids." Husson—"On the Bone-caves in the Environs of Toul." Garrigon and Martin—"On the Age of the Aurochs and Reindeer found in the Cave at Lourdes (Hautes Pyrénées)." Coulvier-Gravier—"Observations on Shooting-stars and Aerial Currents." Kericuff—"On the Composition of the Resisting Medium." Prevet—"A Substitute for Coffee prepared from the Fruit of the Carob." Belhomme—"Researches on the Nervous System." Avard—"Description and Use of a New Surgical Instrument, l'Hystéromètre dilateur."

The following correspondence was read:—Poutécoulant—"Notice of Halley's Comet and its Successive Appearances from 1531 to 1910" (continuation). Gauguin—"On the Residual Charge in Electrical Condensers." Belhomme—"Researches on the Indestructibility of the Power of Fecundation of Pollen." Argenti—"Enunciations of some Geometrical Propositions." Noiret—"Considerations on Aerostation."

It was announced that an imperial decree had been issued giving permission to the Academy to accept Mdlle. Letellier's legacy for the foundation of a prize for young travelling zoologists.

May 9.—The following memoirs and communications were read:—Bussy and Buignet—"Researches on Hydrocyanic Acid" (continuation). Valz—"On the Deviation of the Tails of the Comets IV. and V. (1863) from the Planes of their Orbits." Besgue—"On the Numbers of Bernoulli." Delaunay—"Report on M. Hiffelsheim's Note on the Action of the Heart." Guérin-Méneville—"Note accompanying the Presentation of live Specimens of two Species of Silkworm living on the Oak." Namias—"On the Effect of Electricity in lessening the Obstacles which prevent the Separation of Urea from the Blood in Bright's Disease." Grimaud—"On the Seine and the Sewers of Paris." Niede-Mouries—"On the Preparation of Fatty Acids suitable for the Manufacture of Soaps and Candles." MM. Pelouze and Chevreul made some observations on this communication. Béranger-Féraud—"On a Case of Diabetes Mellitus in a Monkey." Bernard (of the Mauritius)—"Experiments on Spontaneous Generation." De Vitray and Desmarte—"On the Possibility of the Transmission of the Oidium from Vegetables to Man." George—"A Method of preventing Poisoning by Phosphorus." Kanst—"Description and Use of a New Compass Level."

The following correspondence was read:—Desmazières—"On some Fossil Shells from Thibet." Guyerdet—"Determination of these Fossils." Lafolys—"On a New Process of Printing Photographic Images in Oil-Colour."

M. Rochard presented a memoir, in competition for the Medical Prize, "On the Influence of the Alteration of the Blood in the Pathogeny and Treatment of Ringworm." A memoir was also received from M. Martin-Duclaux "On the Pellagra," in competition for the prize on that subject offered by the Academy. M. Lechelle presented a memoir "On the Cause and Prevention of Disease," in competition for the Barbier prize.

BERLIN.

Akademie der Wissenschaften, Feb. 1.—Philosophico-Historical Section.—The following papers were read:—Schott—"On the Lexicography of the Japanese;" Bekker—"Remarks on Homer" (continuation).

Feb. 4.—General Meeting of the Academy.—Buschmann—"On the Cardinal Numbers of the Phonetic Language." This paper was a continuation of one previously read belonging to the third division of the author's phonetic grammar.—Hübner, "On the Age of the *Porta Nigra* of Trèves." After noticing the conflicting opinions of previous authors as to the age and probable use of this gate, he arrives at the conclusion that it is of true Roman origin, and belongs to the middle of the first century. A careful examination of the structure, and comparison with other gates whose origin is known, have further led him to suppose that the Trèves gate formed part of the fortifications of the city. The paper, which was communicated by Herr Mommsen, is illustrated by a fac-simile engraving of certain inscriptions found upon the gate which have been erroneously described by Krieg as masons' marks. Herr Hübner affirms that they are merely abbreviations of Latin names.—Pertz—"Account of an unknown and unpublished Manuscript of the *Leges Wisigothorum*." This manuscript has been in the library of Count Brake at Skokloster in Sweden since the middle of the last century. It is written on parchment, in double columns, in the character of the twelfth century, and contains the text of the laws of the Visigoths.

Feb. 11.—General Meeting of the Academy.—Reidel—"Friedrich II., Elector of Brandenburg, and his struggles for the sovereignty of the entire Baltic coast, after the acquisition of Holstein and Lauenburg." This paper contains a history of "the first act of the Schleswig-Holstein and Denmark drama."

The following were elected corresponding members of the Philosophico-historical Section:—Aufrecht of Edinburgh, Von Dorn of St. Petersburg, Keil of Pforta, Lotze of Göttingen, De Rozières of Paris, and Zeller of Heidelberg.

Feb. 15.—Physico-mathematical Section.—Ewald—"On the Characters and Distribution of the genus *Monopleura*."

Feb. 18.—General Meeting of the Academy.—Braun—"Remarks on Leaf-arrangement." His Majesty was pleased to confirm the election of Dr. Carl Müllenhoff as ordinary member of the Academy.

Feb. 25.—General Meeting of the Academy.—Haupt—"On an unpublished Greek History of Animals." No abstracts of the three preceding papers are given in the *Monatsbericht*. Peters—"New species belonging to the families Cyclostomacea and Helicinacea from the Indian Archipelago." The following new species were described:—(1.) *Opisthoporus Sumatranus*, found at Kepahiang, in the interior of Sumatra, on the eastern declivity of the central mountain chain. (2.) *Pterocyclos Sumatranus*, same locality. (3.) *Cyclostus latistrigus*, Singkawang, Western Borneo, Lumar, Manahor, and Mampawa. (4.) *C. fasciatus*, Maros, South Celebes. (5.) *C. reticulatus*, Islands of Timor, Flores, Adenare, and Solor. (6.) *C. succinctus*, Island of Timor. (7.) *C. ptychopraphe*, Singkawang, Western Borneo, allied to *C. suturalis* Sow. and *C. opalinus* Mouss. (8.) *C. liratus*, Moluccas, on the islands of the Amboyna and Banda group, allied to *C. pygmaeum* Sow. (9.) *C. bicarinatus*, Island of Ceram (Moluccas). (10.) *C. carinulatus*, Island of Buru (Moluccas). (11.) *Cyclophorus gaymansii*, Kepahiang in Sumatra—named after his friend Dr. Gaymans. (12.) *Raphaulus ceramicus*, Island of Ceram (Moluccas). (13.) *Omphalotropis bicarinata*, allied to *O. rubeus*, Quoy and Gaimard, islands of Amboyna and Buru. The genus *Omphalotropis* is distinguished from *Hydrocena*, which two genera are combined by Dr. Pfeiffer, in the supplement to his monograph, by the absence of the basal epidermis and the opercular appendage, and also by the shape of the tentacles, which, in the former, are long and pointed, but in *Hydrocena* form folds, scarcely to be distinguished from the base of the eye (*Augenbasis*). *Omphalotropis* is closely related to *Realia* (Gray) Pfr., whilst *Hydrocena* must be placed with *Helicina* on account of the teeth. (14.) *Truncatella scalaroides*, Amboyna, distinguished by the serration of the last whorl from the allied *T. scalariformis*, Reeve, and *T. scalaris*, Mich. (15.) *Diplommantina constricta*, Island of Ternate (Moluccas). This might form a separate group, for which the name of *Diancta* was proposed on account of the contraction of the two last whorls. (16.) *Paxillus rubicundus*, Bengkajang, Western Borneo. (17.) *Alycaeus longituba*, Kepahiang, Sumatra. (18.) *Helicina sculpta*, Island of Timor. (19.) *Helicina suturalis*, Islands of Amboyna, Ceram, and Buru. (20.) *Helicina Borneensis*, Singkawang, Western Borneo.

Peters—"A new genus belonging to the family *Percidae*, and a new species of shark from New

Holland."—This new genus, which resembles the *Percidae* in habit, he proposed to call *Plectroperca*. It is nearly allied to *Trachypoma*, from which, however, it may easily be distinguished by the head being covered with scales as far as the nostrils, and also by the larger size of these (ctenoid) scales. *P. Berendtii* is the name of the species described. It was captured in the lake of Berendt, near Yokuhama, in Japan. The new species of shark Dr. Peters proposed to call *Crossorhinus tentaculatus*. The cutaneous tags in this species are simple and less numerous than in *C. barbatus*. The three last gill-openings over the pectoral fins. Dorsal fins of nearly equal size, rounded on their upper margins, and placed about a quarter of their length apart. Caudal fin commences immediately behind the anal fin. On the posterior margin of the latter a very small notch, and a triangular notch on the lower side similar to *C. barbatus*. The total length of a full-grown female specimen was 75 mètres. It may easily be distinguished from *C. barbatus* (Müll. and Henle) by the position of the dorsal fins, and also by the presence of a number of small bright rings on the upper parts of the body of the latter, which are not found in the new species. The specimens were collected by Herr R. Schomburgk, at Adelaide, South Australia.

Feb. 29.—Philosophico-historical Section.—Dirksen—"Veteres et Jurisconditores v. Auctores, or the collective designation of the early Roman Jurists." Kirchhoff—"The Pythian Games and the period at which they were held." It is universally admitted that this festival was celebrated in the third year of each Olympiad, but the season at which it took place is doubtful. The author, after reviewing the opinions of Corsini, Clinton, and Boeckh, is led to the conclusion that the Pythian games were held in the first half of the Attic Metageitnon, which corresponds to the middle of August. Bekker—"Remarks on Homer" (continuation).

LEARNED SOCIETIES.

Geological Society, May 11. W. J. Hamilton, Esq., President, in the chair. Messrs. T. Carrington, Jun., J. B. Even, Mem. Soc. Géol. Fr., Brussels, Rev. J. H. Timins, and H. Woodward, F.Z.S., were elected Fellows.—THE following communications were read:—1. "On a Section with Mammalian Remains near Thame." By Mr. T. Codrington.—A railway-cutting through a hill between Oxford and Thame having exposed a section of certain gravel-beds, from which many mammalian remains were collected, the author now gave a short description of the section and a list of the bones he had obtained from it. The hill is nearly surrounded by the Thame and two small tributaries, and consists of Kimmeridge clay capped by a bed of coarse gravel overlain by sandy clay. The gravel consists of chalk-flints, pebbles derived from the Lower Greensand, and fragments of mica-schist, &c., indicating a northern-drift origin; it contained many bones of elephant, rhinoceros, horse, ox, and deer, and a single phalanx of a small carnivore; but no flint implements were discovered.

2. "On a Deposit at Stroud containing Flint Implements, Land and Freshwater Shells, &c." By Mr. E. Witchell.—In the construction of a reservoir near the summit of the hill above the town of Stroud, the author observed, about two feet from the surface, a deposit of tufa containing land-shells, with a few freshwater bivalves; in it he subsequently discovered several flint flakes of a primitive type, and in the overlying earth a few pieces of rude pottery. As the deposit is situated on the spur of a hill nearly separated from the surrounding country by deep valleys, and as Mr. Witchell considered it to be comparatively recent, he concluded that it had been formed in a pond or lake, which had been caused by a landslip from the higher ground, producing a dam that stopped the downflow into the valley of the water of the neighbouring springs.

3. "On the White Limestone of Jamaica, and its Associated Intrusive Rocks." By Mr. A. Lennox, late of the Geological Survey of Jamaica.—The White Limestone of Jamaica was described as including a basement series of sandstones and shales, a hard white limestone, a yellowish limestone, and an uppermost member consisting of dark-red marl; it was estimated to be at least 2500 feet thick; and the author stated that, at the junction of the calcareous rocks with the granite, the former was often more or less altered; and this appeared to be the best proof of the Tertiary age of the latter. Mr. Lennox then adverted to a diagram-section of the rock-forma-

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tions of Jamaica, by the late Mr. Barrett (*Quart. Journ. Geol. Soc.*, vol. xix., p. 515), which he considered erroneous on the following grounds:—(1) He knows no section in Jamaica in which the relation of the White Limestone to the Hippurite-limestone is seen; (2) the White Limestone he believes to be of Miocene age; and (3) the shady and sandy beds represented in the section as overlying the White Limestone he considers to be undoubtedly in infraposition. The author then discussed the question of the age of the White Limestone, first on physical grounds, and afterwards paleontologically, inferring that it was decidedly of Miocene date; and in conclusion he remarked that the White Limestone had probably been deposited slowly in a tranquil sea, and discussed its relation to the Tertiary beds of the other West Indian Islands.

4. "Facts and Observations connected with the Earthquake which occurred in England on the morning of the 6th of October, 1863." By Fort-Major T. Austin.—Earthquakes in the British Isles attract usually but little notice, owing probably to the mild form in which they generally occur; but that one treated of in this paper, owing to its greater violence, aroused attention to the subject. The disturbance was said to extend from a point in St. George's Channel forty or fifty miles to the north-west of Pembrokeshire to Yorkshire, and the focus of the disturbance to be situated near the former spot. The author brought forward a number of facts for the purpose of proving the intensity of the shock, the time at which it occurred, the number of vibrations, their direction (which was considered to be from W.N.W. to E.S.E.), and the occurrence of incidental phenomena, and concluded by passing in review the natural causes competent to produce these and other characteristics of earthquakes.

Entomological Society, May 2. F. P. Pascoe, Esq., F.L.S., &c., President, in the chair.—MR. DUNNING exhibited a specimen of *Hydrilla palustris* captured in Cambridgeshire in 1862 by Mr. R. S. Scholfield. The occurrence of this moth in Britain had been recorded on one previous occasion only.

Captain Cox exhibited various coloured drawings of larvæ of *Lepidoptera*; and living specimens of one species, which had taken possession and were consuming the contents of a large bin of bran, and which he thought were probably the larvæ of *Aglossa pinguinalis*.

Professor Westwood exhibited nine species of *Charaxes*, three of which were unique specimens. The whole of these butterflies were from the Zambesi district, whence they had been sent home by the Rev. H. Rowley.

Mr. A. R. Wallace exhibited various species of *Papilio*, *Eronia*, and *Pieris*, with a view to showing the effect of locality in producing change of form in insects. A number of species were taken which inhabited the Island of Celebes, and in juxtaposition with each was placed its nearest ally from the adjoining islands. The Celebes insects had, in every instance exhibited, the anterior margin of the fore-wings much more strongly arched than was the case with the allied species with which they were compared. Mr. Wallace remarked that changes in colour which were due to locality had been frequently noticed, but of instances of a change of form only few had been recorded. Mr. Bates, however, mentioned some as having come under his notice in South America. In the Eastern Archipelago he (Mr. Wallace) had found that the butterflies inhabiting the islands which formed the Eastern half were, as a rule, larger than those in the Western half, and especially in the *Papilionidæ* that Celebes and Amboyna produced the largest specimens of all. Some species which in India were found with a large tail appended to their hind wings possessed only a small tail in the Indian Islands, which ceased altogether, or was reduced to a mere tooth, in the islands of the Pacific. The island of Celebes was as nearly as might be the centre of the Eastern Archipelago, and many of the butterflies of that island, especially the *Papiliones*, possessed the peculiar form of wing to which he invited attention; sixteen or seventeen species of *Papilio* were found in Celebes, and, with a single exception hereafter noticed, all were distinguished from their allies in the other islands by having the upper wings strongly arched in lieu of a gentle and gradual curve; the same distinction existed in many *Pieridæ*, and in a few of the *Nymphalidæ*. Mr. Wallace conceived that the insects had become modified in form by the external circumstances to which they had been subjected, and that this modification was to be accounted for by some physical or organic change which had

occurred in Celebes but not in the now adjacent isles. Rapidity of flight was generally supposed to be the result of the falcate form of wing; he was inclined to think that the falcate form gave greater facility in twisting or turning about; if that were so, the Celebes form of butterfly-wing would enable the insect more easily to escape from its enemies and pursuers. If, then, the Celebes insects were supposed to have been formerly subject to persecution, those with the arched wings would have the best chance of surviving; the less favoured forms would be gradually killed off; the offspring of the survivors would resemble their parents, and some few would excel them, in the possession of the advantageous shape; and "natural selection" through successive generations would lead to the gradual and regular increase of the peculiarity. But it might be asked, how is it that some only of the butterflies have the peculiarity in question? The answer was, that different insects preserve their existence by different means: one may escape from its enemy by its power of flight, another may owe safety to its sombre colour, a third may be positively distasteful to animals which prey upon insects. Thus the *Danaidæ* of South America, though slow of flight, were very abundant, and were the subjects of "mimetic resemblance;" doubtless, therefore, they possessed some peculiar protection, and in all probability their immunity from destruction was due to the strong and unpleasant odour which they indubitably had. It was manifest that, where some other means of escape already existed, the principle of selection would not be brought into play, or at least would not operate to produce the modification of wing: the peculiar form of wing would not be wanted, and therefore would not be acquired. The obscure *Satyridæ* were protected by their colour; the majority of the *Nymphalidæ* had already sufficient power of flight, and those of that group which had acquired the arched form of wing were species possessing only about the same power of flight as a *Papilio*. The only Celebesan *Papilio* which had not assumed the arched form was one belonging to the *Polydorus* group—a group which was itself imitated by other *Papiliones*, and which therefore was doubtless already provided with some special defence, though the nature of it was unknown to us.

Captain Thomas Hutton, F.G.S., of Mussooree, N.W. India, communicated a paper "On the Reversion and Restoration of the Silkworm."—The author attributed the enormous loss of silkworms by "muscardinæ" and other diseases to the combined effects of bad and scanty food, want of sufficient light and ventilation, too high a temperature, and the constant interbreeding for centuries of a debilitated stock. He had for several years been experimenting upon *Bombyx Mori*, with a view, if possible, to restore to the worms a healthy constitution, to induce them to revert from their present artificial and moribund condition to one of vigour and permanent health. He regarded the occasional occurrence in a brood of one or more dark grey or blackish brindled worms—the *vers tigrés* or *vers zébrés* of the French—as an attempted return on the part of Nature to the original colours and characteristics of the species; in fact, the dark worms, hitherto rejected by the sericulturist, were the original and natural worms, and the whiteness or the pale sickly hue of the majority was a positive indication of degeneracy and of the destruction of the original constitution. The author narrated in detail the means by which he had acquired a strong and healthy stock of dark worms, and recommended the sericulturist to separate his dark worms from his general stock, to set them apart for breeding from, and to annually weed out all the pale-coloured worms; in the course of three or four years he would be able to cast aside his present sickly stock, and would have acquired a stock far healthier than had ever before been seen in Europe.

Syro-Egyptian Society, May 10. The Rev. B. H. Cowper in the chair.—JOSEPH BONOMI, Esq., F.R.S.L., read a paper "On the Alabaster Sarcophagus preserved in the Museum of Sir John Soane."—Mr. Bonomi commenced by an extract from Belzoni's "Travels in Egypt," describing the tomb in the Beban el Motuk in which the sarcophagus was found on the 18th of October, 1817, and illustrated that traveller's very animated description by a section and plan of the catacomb, which is excavated to the depth of a hundred yards into the solid rock. The sarcophagus is completely covered with hieroglyphics and 659 figures, all of which were originally filled in with a blue paste. The subjects on both the sides are of a religious character, while that on the floor of the sarcophagus is personal. Two subjects of particular

interest were pointed out—one as representing the ancient cosmical philosophy, and the other as exhibiting in a very perfect manner the doctrine of the metempsychosis. Mr. Bonomi also stated that the sarcophagus revealed two remarkable features which have not been seen in any other example. The first is the existence of two holes at each end of the lid for the admission of ropes to insure the gradual adjustment of the cover into its proper place; and the next the evidence of a means of preserving the edges of the sarcophagus from fracture during the process of lowering, and affording the means of hermetically closing it.

British Archæological Association, May 11.—Annual General Meeting.—N. Gould, Esq., F.S.A., V.P., in the chair.—THE report of the auditors appointed to examine the accounts of the Association was read; and it appeared that during the year 1863 the sum of £545. 6s. 3d. had been received, and payments made of £478. 0s. 7d., leaving a balance in favour of the Association of £67. 5s. 8d. Fifty-six Associates had been elected, thirty had withdrawn, and sixteen had died. It was proposed also to erase twelve Associates for non-payment of their subscriptions. Not a single debt remained unpaid. The Congress held at Leeds under the presidency of Lord Houghton had been very successful; and Ipswich had been appointed for this year as the place of meeting, under the presidency of George Tomline, Esq., M.P. The meeting will commence on the 8th of August, and continue to the 13th, inclusive. Thanks were specially voted to the late president, to the treasurer, the auditors, the officers and council, &c., and a ballot was taken for officers and council for 1864-5, when the following were elected:—President—G. Tomline, M.P., F.S.A. Vice-Presidents—Sir C. Rouse Boughton, Bart.; J. Copland, M.D., F.R.S.; G. Godwin, F.R.S., F.S.A.; N. Gould, F.S.A.; J. Heywood, F.R.S., F.S.A.; G. V. Irving, F.S.A., Scot.; T. J. Pettigrew, F.R.S., F.S.A.; Sir J. G. Wilkinson, D.C.L., F.R.S. Treasurer—T. J. Pettigrew, F.R.S., F.S.A. Secretaries—J. R. Planché, *Rouge Croix*; H. S. Cuming; E. Roberts, F.S.A. Secretary for Foreign Correspondence—T. Wright, F.S.A. Palæographer—C. Hopper. Curator and Librarian—G. R. Wright, F.S.A. Council—G. G. Adams; G. Ade; T. Blashill; W. D. Haggard, F.S.A.; J. O. Halliwell, F.R.S., F.S.A.; G. M. Hills; Lord Houghton, D.C.L.; T. W. King, F.S.A., *York Herald*; J. Lee, LL.D., F.R.S., F.S.A.; E. Leven, F.S.A.; W. C. Marshall, R.A.; T. Page, C.E.; R. N. Phillips, F.S.A.; J. W. Previtè; S. R. Solly, M.A., F.R.S., F.S.A.; J. W. Walton; C. F. Whiting. Auditors—R. Hannah; W. Yewd. The obituary notices of members deceased during the year were ordered to be read at the next meeting (May 25). The sheets of the forthcoming part of the "Collectanea Archæologica," and twenty plates in illustration, were submitted to the meeting.

Royal Geographical Society, May 9. Sir R. I. Murchison, K.C.B., President, in the chair.—THE first paper read was on "A newly-discovered low Pass over the Andes in Chili, south of Valdivia," by Don Guillermo Cox; translated and communicated by Sir Woodbine Parish.—Sir Woodbine Parish, who was present and read the paper, stated that Senor Cox was the son of an English physician of Valparaiso, and had undertaken his recent remarkable journey with a view to discover an easy route between the new Chilean settlements on the Pacific coast in 40° and 41° S. lat. and the river Negro, which, eighty years ago, had been proved by Villarino, a Spanish explorer, to be navigable from the eastern side of the Andes to the Atlantic. He equipped an expedition at his own cost at Port Montt, a new German settlement, now containing 15,000 inhabitants, near the island of Chiloe, and proceeded in December 1862, by way of the two lakes Llanquihue and Todos-os-Santos, towards the almost unknown inland sea of Naguel-huapi. He traversed the lakes by means of gutta-percha boats, three of which were carried by the party, and succeeded in discovering a pass over the Cordillera at an altitude of not more than 2800 feet. Arrived at the end of Lake Naguel-huapi (Lake of Tigres), which lies on the eastern side of the chain of the Andes, Senor Cox's party were rejoiced to find a broad stream issuing from it in the direction of the rivers which flow into the Atlantic. Nine of the sixteen persons who formed the expedition here returned to Port Montt; the rest embarked in one of the boats and descended the river, which is called the Limay, and forms one of the affluents of the Rio Negro. The voyage was from the first attended with great risks, owing to the numerous rapids; and the various adventures encountered

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were narrated in a lively manner by the author. At length, when within five miles of the point to which Villarino had attained in ascending the Rio Negro from the Atlantic, the boat was upset, and the party escaped drowning only to fall into the hands of a savage tribe of Pampas Indians encamped near the spot. Senor Cox appeased the anger of the cacique, who wished to put him to death for having visited his territory without permission, by playing a tune on a flageolet he had fortunately saved from the wreck. The cacique at length promised to assist him in reaching the Rio Negro, on condition that he first went to Valdivia for presents. The re-crossing of the Cordillera, at a more northerly point, towards Valdivia was accomplished without much difficulty; but the main object of Senor Cox's journey—namely, the opening of an easy passage across the continent—has been up to the present time frustrated by the hostility of the Indian tribes.

Admiral Fitzroy said that the region to which their attention had been called was, with respect both to soil and climate, well suited to the constitution, habits, and pursuits of Englishmen. The western side of the southern parts of South America embraced some of the finest regions in the world; in proof of which he had only to point to the fact that the new German colony of Port Montt, in a region which, when he surveyed the coast, was peopled only by scanty hordes of savages, had in ten years become a town of 15,000 inhabitants. A little further to the north there was a place where we now heard of twenty or thirty ships at a time loading coal; whilst at the time of his visit nothing but a few fragments of coal were seen lying about, which no one thought worth picking up. The range of the Andes is rich in minerals, and the whole of the country to the west is well timbered. Indeed the country is already becoming the abode of civilized men, for a number of new settlements had lately sprung into existence along the Eastern coast and in the straits of Magellan, as well as on the western side. The forests of the Chilian side include extensive forests of apple-trees of good edible varieties. The country also possesses three different kinds of potatoes, better than any he had ever eaten at home. He was only surprised, considering the deterioration of the potato-plant in England, that some adventurous Englishman had not been out to this region to procure a stock of fresh plants.

The second paper was "On the Upper Provinces of the Argentine Republic," by T. J. Hutchinson, H.B.M. Consul at Rosario.—The great railway through the Argentine Provinces, projected by Mr. Wheelright, having been very favourably reported on in this paper, the President called on Mr. Wheelright, who was present, to say what influence the discovery of new passes would have on his scheme for carrying a line of railway over the Andes.

Mr. Wheelright described the route laid down for his railway over one of the northerly passes of Chili at an altitude of 16,500 feet, and stated that another much lower pass had been discovered further south, but that it was a question which would be more practicable for a line of railway, seeing that the lower pass, being further to the south, might not be so free from snow as the higher one, which was more northerly. The southerly pass, however, lay in a much more direct line with the thickly-peopled parts of the Argentine Provinces.

The President, in conclusion, called attention to a series of paintings in the room, representing different aspects of the Zambesi Falls, the work of Mr. Thomas Baines, formerly artist to the Livingstone expedition. He stated also that the anniversary meeting and dinner of the Society would take place on Monday, the 23rd instant.

Institution of Civil Engineers, May 10. J. R. McClean, Esq., President, in the chair.—THE paper read was "On the Means of Utilizing the Products of the Distillation of Coal, so as to reduce the Price of Coke; with descriptions of the ovens and of the best processes in use in Great Britain and on the Continent in the Manufacture of Coke," by M. Pernolet (of Paris).—The author believed that this question had been practically solved by the employment of existing ovens, to which certain inexpensive additions were made, and which, while still giving to the coke all the solidity, density, and lustre that distinguished good coke made in the ordinary way, enabled every product of the distillation of coal to be turned to account. This was effected, mainly, by keeping the coal from all contact with the air during its distillation, by performing that process very slowly, and by collecting and making use of

the volatile products. The whole arrangement had been sanctioned by many years' experience, both in Belgium and France, where it was actively and profitably pursued at ten different establishments, with more than four hundred ovens, of the largest dimensions, capable of receiving from five to seven tons of coal at each charge. In converting an old oven into one of the improved form, the floor was taken up and raised about a foot, so as to allow of its being heated from below, by means of a fire-grate and flues. A new opening was made in the roof, in which was fixed a pipe, intended to receive the volatile products, and to conduct them to their destination. The ordinary door and the other opening at the top were so arranged that they could be kept hermetically closed. A chimney was also added to the masonry of the old ovens; and this was an essential part of the system, as it secured the circulation of the products of distillation. It had been ascertained that this chimney should be 50 feet high, and not less than $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet square, inside dimensions, for a group of sixteen contiguous ovens; and that the sectional area of the main flue, connecting the different ovens with the chimney, should be three-fourths that of the chimney. In order to try whether the distillation was finished in any one oven, a valve was closed in the outlet pipe; when, if the charring was incomplete, the gas still given off would cause cracks in the loam, with which the joints of the door were closely luted, and thus the necessity for continuing the process was demonstrated. The valve was then simply re-opened, so as to allow the gas again to pass off by the pipe. If, on the other hand, when the valve was closed, no gas escaped at the joints, the charring was known to be finished, and the coke was fit to be drawn. During this operation the valve was closed, to prevent the mixture of the external air with the gases circulating in the outlet pipe, and the cast-iron cover of the opening at the top was kept shut, to avoid the risk of igniting the coke by the draught of air which would be created if it was open. The oven was arranged for charging from the top, by means of waggons running upon rails, and in this way five tons of coal could be introduced in fifteen or twenty minutes—a rapidity which was most desirable for preserving the heat of the oven. When the charge was being withdrawn and replaced, the gas from the other ovens was allowed to pass continually into the fire-place, so that the floor was kept hot, and the gas accordingly began to show itself, above the opening at the top, only a few minutes after the closing of the door. This opening was then hermetically sealed, and the valve in the outlet pipe being raised, the communication was re-established between the interior of the oven and the great common flue. The products of the distillation were drawn off by the draught of the chimney, together with the condensation of the liquid, and the cooling of the gaseous products. After circulating in the great general flue, the products penetrated into the condensing apparatus, where they deposited most of the tar and ammoniacal liquor, and returned to the ovens by the small general flue, whence the gas, purified and dried, passed to each fire. The time occupied in charring varied with the nature of the coal, and the density desired for the coke, and with the arrangement of the oven. At St. Etienne it took upwards of seventy-two hours, with rich coals, while at Torteron the time occupied was only twenty-four hours, with the rather poor but flaring coals of Commentry. As to the cost, it was stated that the expense of altering each oven at St. Etienne was about £20, and that, as the value of the additional yield from each oven ought to be about £60 per annum, this outlay should be repaid by four months' work. It was asserted that the supplementary products due to these arrangements were—a larger yield of coke, and all the tar, the ammoniacal liquors, and the gas, which would be obtained from the same coals, if distilled in the retorts of a gas manufactory. Thus, in the great coke works at St. Etienne, the yield had been advanced from 58.8 to 69.3 per cent, and in the "Fonderies et Forges d'Alais" from 54.6 to 69.5 per cent. Generally speaking, with rich, or partially rich coals, the increase in the yield of coke was from 10 to 15 per cent. As to the tar, the proportion collected depended on the nature of the coal, and on the care taken, both in the distillation of the coal, and in the condensation of its volatile products. It had averaged 2.53 per cent. at the Forges d'Alais, 3 per cent. at Elonges, 3.25 per cent. at St. Etienne, and had reached as high as 5 per cent. from the ovens of the Paris Gas Light Company, where only very bituminous coals were employed; but it was thought that there might be reckoned 3 per cent. of tar from

the bulk of the coal distilled. The proportion of ammoniacal liquors depended also on the quantity of moisture contained in the coal; but it might be stated at a weight of not less than 10 lbs. of sulphate of ammonia, and sometimes it was as much as 13 lbs. per ton of coal distilled. At the ovens of the Paris Gas Light Company from 10,000 to 11,500 cubic feet of purified gas were generally obtained from a ton of coal, which yielded from 69 to 70 per cent. of coke, fit for delivery to the railway companies.

CAMBRIDGE.

Philosophical Society, May 16.—THE following communications were read:—1. Professor De Morgan—"A Theorem relating to Neutral Series."—The theorem is as follows: If $a_0 - a_1 + a_2 - \dots$ be a convergent series which has the limiting form $1 - 1 + 1 - \dots$, and if a_x be of continuous law, so that $a_{x+1} : a_x$ finally approaches towards a limit, the limit to which the series approaches as its form approaches neutrality is $a_x - a_{x+1}$, divided by $a_x - a_{x+2}$. And this limit is always $\frac{1}{2}$. If there be in the series a cycle of laws, involving an even number of terms, so that $a_{2nz} - a_{2nz+1}, a_{2nz+1} - a_{2nz+2}, \dots, a_{2nz+2n-1} - a_{2nz+2n}$, approach in ratio to $k_0, k_1, \dots, k_{2n-1}$, then the two series $a_0 - a_1 + a_2 - \dots$ and $a_1 - a_2 + a_3 - \dots$, which have unity for their sum, have the ratio of $k_0 + k_2 + \dots + k_{2n-2}$ to $k_1 + k_3 + \dots + k_{2n-1}$. But if the cycle have an odd number of terms, each of these series is $\frac{1}{2}$, just as if the law had been continuous. The demonstration is founded on the following theorem: If $P_0 + P_1 + \dots$ and $Q_0 + Q_1 + \dots$ be diverging series, whether of increasing or decreasing terms, their two infinite sums are in the final ratio of P_2 to Q_2 . Applications of this theorem are given, to the determination of a large number of terms of $1^n + 2^n + \dots$ when n is -1 , or greater, and to the determination of the usual approximation to $1.2.3 \dots n$ when n is great.

2. Professor De Morgan—"On Infinity, and on the Sign of Equality."—The author professes himself satisfied of the subjective reality of the notions of infinitely great and infinitely small. His paper, so far as it deals with various objections by various modes of answer, is not capable of abstract; but four points, on which he especially relies, may be stated as follows:—1. The concepts of the mind are divided into imageable and unimageable. The first can be pictured, or placed before the mind's eye; the second cannot. The mathematician, dealing in great part with imaged concepts, is apt to repel the unimageable, as if it could not be a legitimate object of mathematical reasoning. But all that is necessary to reasoning is knowledge of the connexion of subjects and predicates. Infinite quantity is unimageable in its relation to finite quantity, but not, therefore, inconceivable, nor destitute of known attributes. A million of cubic miles is as destitute of image as infinite space; nevertheless, it is a conception, the attributes of which give known properties. 2. Number, or enumeration, as distinguished from multitude, is a concept from which no notion of infinity can be gained; but much perplexity has arisen from the attempt to make it a teacher of this subject. Abstract number has more than one affection which is derived from the concrete, in such manner that the two abstractions—number and its affection—cannot have their junction explained, excepting by return to the concrete. Such affections are the divisible unit, on which the doctrine of fractions is founded, and the opposition of positive and negative. The representation of infinite and of infinitesimal number is a third affection of the numerical, which cannot be explained on purely numerical notions. 3. The infinite is not a kind of terminus to the finite, but another status of magnitude, such that no finite, however great, is anything but an infinitesimal of the infinite. And the same may be said of each order of infinity, with reference to the one below it. 4. The symbol $\frac{1}{2}$, the infinite of common algebra, represents an extreme of infinite, which can no more be attained by passage through orders of infinity than any infinite by passage from finite to finite. Each of these positions comes into conflict with some of the usual arguments for or against the introduction of infinities. The second part of the paper is on the meaning of the sign of equality. Mr. De Morgan contends for the ultimate attainment of a purely formal algebra, in which every transformation shall have meaning and validity in every possible case. He points out certain difficulties and inconsistencies in the ordinary use of the sign of equality, which can, he affirms, receive a consistent explanation on the extension which he proposes, and which, to some extent, he considers as virtually adopted. His

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notion is that *equality*, strictly so called, is but a species of the genus *undistinguishable*; and that the actual use of the sign (=) shows a leaning to the generic definition. Every order of infinites or infinitesimals has its own *metre*, and the sign (—) indicates undistinguishability with reference to the metre, which is often in thought, but of which no symbol is employed. Algebraical changes may or may not demand, or permit, changes in the metre. It would be impossible to give any further account, with justice to the subject, in a short abstract.

3. A communication was made by Mr. Harry Seeley "On Saurormia, and the Classification of Pterodactyles."

MEETINGS NEXT WEEK.

MONDAY, MAY 23rd.
GEOGRAPHICAL, at 1.—15, Whitehall Place. Anniversary.

TUESDAY, MAY 24th.
LINNEAN, at 3.—Burlington House. Anniversary.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 3.—Albemarle Street. "On Animal Life." Professor Marshall.

ETHNOLOGICAL, at 8.—4, St. Martin's Place, Trafalgar Square. Extra Meeting. "On Empirical and Scientific Physiognomy as applied to the Study of Races of Man and Individuals." Dr. Donovan.

CIVIL ENGINEERS, at 8.—25, Great George Street, Westminster. "On the Machinery employed in sinking Artesian Wells on the Continent." Mr. G. R. Burnell.

MEDICAL AND CHIRURGICAL, at 8.30.—53, Berners Street, Oxford Street.

ARCHITECTURAL EXHIBITION, at 8.—9, Conduit Street, Regent Street. "On the Decoration of Flat Surfaces." Dr. C. Dresser.

ZOOLOGICAL, at 9.—11, Hanover Square. "On the Occurrence of a Species of Fin-Whale on the Coast of Norfolk." Mr. W. H. Flower. "Note on the Species of Cuckoos of the Genus *Necomorphus*." Dr. P. L. Slater. And other papers.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 25th.
SOCIETY OF ARTS, at 8.—John Street, Adelphi.
GEOLOGICAL, at 8.—Somerset House. 1. "Geological Notes on part of the North-western Himalayas." Capt. Godwin-Austen. Communicated by R. A. C. Godwin-Austen, Esq., F.R.S. 2. "On the Cetacean Fossils termed *Ziphius* by Cuvier." Prof. T. H. Huxley, F.R.S., &c. 3. "On the Retic Bed and White Lias of West and Central Somerset." Mr. W. B. Dawkins.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION, at 8.30.—32, Sackville Street.

THURSDAY, MAY 26th.
ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 3.—Albemarle Street. "On Music (1600—1750)." Mr. Hullah.

ANTIQUARIES, at 8.—Somerset House.

ROYAL, at 8.30.—Burlington House. "Note on the Variations of Density produced by Heat." Dr. T. L. Phipson. "On the Spectra of some of the Fixed Stars." Mr. W. Huggins and Dr. Miller. "A Comparison of the most Notable Disturbances of the Magnetic Declination in 1858 and 1859 at Kew and Nertschinsk." General Sabine. "A Second Memoir on Skew Surfaces, otherwise Scrolls." Prof. Cayley. "On the Differential Equations which determine the Forms of the Roots of Algebraic Equations." Prof. Boole.

FRIDAY, MAY 27th.
UNITED SERVICE INSTITUTION, at 3.—Whitehall Yard. "Some New Points in the History and Applications of Gun Cotton." Mr. F. A. Abel, F.R.S.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 8.—Albemarle Street. "On Greek Art." Mr. R. S. Poole.

SATURDAY, MAY 28th.
ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 3.—Albemarle Street. "On Falling Stars." Mr. A. Herschel.
ROYAL BOTANIC, at 3.45.—Inner Circle, Regent's Park.

ART.

ROYAL ACADEMY EXHIBITION.

[THIRD NOTICE.]

THE pictures by Landseer and Phillip excepted, the present Exhibition owes but little of its attractiveness to the contributions of Royal Academicians. On calling to mind the works that have made most impression upon us, we are disposed to ask where the Royal Academicians are. We know that the President is better engaged than in painting; we rejoice also that Herbert* and Macise, the two greatest among them, are occupied elsewhere upon works of national importance. Frith is engaged upon a picture of the royal marriage; Cope and Ward are employed upon works at Westminster, the style of which is ill-adapted for the spaces they occupy. Some good, but no great work is exhibited by the remaining members of the body. The Lees, the Coopers, the Creswicks, the Redgraves, the Websters, are no longer in the ascendant. Good work they have done in their day, bravely struggling with difficulties, and helping to build up the edifice of English art; but that task has now evidently devolved upon other hands. It is upon such men as Leighton, Calderon, Marks, Hodgson, Crowe, *cum multis aliis*, that expectation is fixed; and some of them are already deemed to be the worthy successors of those whose experience they inherit, and whose places they are destined to fill.

* The fickleness of public favour, as exhibited by the comments of the press, has been remarkably exemplified in the contrast afforded by the rejection of Mr. Herbert's pretensions to exercise his calling in the exhibition of his "Judith" last year, and the lavish praise now heaped upon him as the only, or, at least, the greatest, painter of his time. The "Judith" was a weak picture, but its author's name was coupled with those of decrepit or retiring Academicians, whose works were said to occupy the "line" to the injury of younger and better painters.

Messrs. Elmore, Goodall, and Poole are the chief figure-painters among the Royal Academicians who contribute to the present Exhibition. Of Millais we have already spoken: although recently elected a full member, his name is still printed in the Catalogue in the list of Associates.

Mr. Elmore is a bold man to choose such a subject as Longfellow's "Excelsior." The public are pretty well sick of this young gentleman and his banner; he has become so identified with young ladies and pretty pianoforte accompaniments that, if he ever had any real manliness about him, it has been dissipated in the fashionable atmosphere to which he has been transferred. Without reference to the subject, which, even if good in itself, is not adapted for treatment in painting, the picture is a good example of Mr. Elmore's vigorous and experienced art; its technical merits are far beyond any that we are accustomed to see; and it is very powerful and effective. "Within the Convent Walls" (100) is, however, generally, and, we think, rightly, preferred, as being devoid of the sentimentality which is no part of Mr. Elmore's nature, and which the "Excelsior" therefore derives from the interpretation of the poem. Mr. Goodall exhibits his diploma picture, "The Song of the Nubian Slave" (294), and two larger works. He has done honour to the Academy, of which he has lately become a full member, by the presentation of one of his best works. Compared with more powerful men, and even with some who are certainly less capable, Mr. Goodall is a tame painter; his pictures display an average of evenly-balanced qualities; they are seldom striking, and never affecting. Even his Eastern subjects fail to convey the impression of light, and the most powerful of them could hardly bear juxtaposition with an ordinary work by Phillip or Millais. But we cannot withhold the praise that is due to that combination of natural and acquired powers which all Mr. Goodall's pictures display, and of which his diploma picture is one of the best examples we have seen. Mr. Poole has produced finer works than his large picture called "Lighting the Beacon on the Coast of Cornwall at the Appearance of the Spanish Armada," which is hardly worthy of the reputation of the painter of "The Plague." The treatment of the same subject by Mr. Hodgson last year, although inferior in all those qualities of art which are mainly the result of experience, was more impressive. The assembled figures about Mr. Hodgson's beacon looked far more like people vitally interested in the approach of the Armada than the few poor peasants who have assembled about Mr. Poole's; while the sentiment of the subject was more effectively aided by Mr. Hodgson's conception of sky and sea, and the remarkable truth with which these were represented. The subject is a grand one, to which neither Mr. Poole nor Mr. Hodgson has done justice; and, as an eminently pictorial passage of history, it still remains to be handled by a stronger painter than either.

The most striking picture in the middle room is Mr. Calderon's "Burial of Hampden." This painter has never receded from any step he has once made, and he has swiftly and surely made his way to the front rank of those outsiders from whom the rank and position of Academicians cannot much longer be withheld. Great dramatic power distinguishes all his works, and it is this power which gives to the present picture so much impressiveness. The unity of the thought is not disturbed by any undue obtrusiveness of parts, and the pathos of the scene is presented us in true solemnity and simplicity. To describe this picture is but barely to record the incident which Mr. Calderon would almost seem to have photographed out of the past. When we are really touched by a work of art the disposition to criticize is unconsciously checked; and this is a true test of its power over us. Criticism may be fairly applied to the details of the picture; but the greatest accuracy and care about details will always be powerless to affect our minds, however much they may excite our curiosity; and we prefer, therefore, Mr. Calderon's picture, with all its shortcomings, to a more faultless yet lifeless representation. In the effort to maintain a general repose certain undeniable defects have been tolerated. The soldiers who bear the coffin are utterly insensible to its weight; and this we believe to be the gravest charge against the action of the figures. The drawing of many of the figures is vague, if not slovenly—we are inclined to think intentionally so; but true subordination of parts does not imply sketchiness or imperfection. The sky, on which so much of the sentiment of the picture depends, has been painted with admirable skill, and is full of colour and light. As an instance of Mr. Calderon's power of dealing with

a simple subject we may refer to the vigorous sketch from life of two peasant-girls, "In the Cloisters at Arles" (264).

Still side by side with his friend and fellow-student, of whom we have just been speaking, Mr. Marks continues to make a sure and steady advance. He has never hit upon so good a subject as that of the sculptor monk carving his gargoyle from life on the abbey roof; but he paints now much better than he did when he produced that clever picture, and this year marks a great advance in the quality and delicacy of his painting. His larger picture, representing the street of an old Flemish town, in which an old piper and his grandchild are seen appealing to an obdurate-looking baker, who leans idly against the door-post of his shop, apparently cogitating as to the propriety of relieving the street-musicians, is a very meritorious work. The expression and action of the child are very naturally represented; but the subject wants point as a pictorial incident, and even the quotation from the Proverbs which accompanies the picture fails to convince us any more than it appears to influence the baker in his notion of the propriety of maintaining this kind of musical vagabondizing. We prefer Mr. Marks's smaller picture; nothing can be better than the character displayed in "Doctors differ" (326), or than the unaffected sentiment of the widow and child in "The House of Prayer." This last picture reveals a power that has not hitherto been placed to the artist's credit; and we accept it as an earnest of more important works with the same tendency towards good-feeling and simplicity.

But, while proceeding to notice the works of younger men, we must not overlook the excellent work of a painter within the Academy pale. In Mr. Horsley's picture of "The New Dress" we fancy that we see the realization of an intention we have lately noted to represent the domestic life of a past age. If this is the case, we can only say that the present picture is a happy instance of his success. To paint a real gentlewoman is no easy task; and the old lady, before whose kindly presence her grandchild stands in childish simplicity and unconscious delight, is a type of her class. The costume and accessories are carefully studied and true to time and place. We are introduced to a scene which Sir Walter Scott would have delighted to set before us, and with which our sympathies are in perfect accord. Very good also is "The Bashful Swain" (429), by the same painter, in which three girls are quizzing the awkward approach of a lover who bears a strong resemblance to Ann Page's "Slender." Mr. Prinsep's "Berenice" has a grand air, and reminds us of some great Venetian lady who might have been painted by Paul Veronese. There is beauty as well as grandeur in the head and throat; but the arms and hands, though well drawn, are too suggestive of masculine strength for even the more impressive womanly type which the painter has endeavoured to represent. The colour of this picture is much to be commended; the eye will appreciate its value by turning for an instant to the large portrait of the Duchess of Wellington in its immediate neighbourhood. Mr. Prinsep's colour is restrained and truthful; and, although we may trace the influence of Mr. Watts in the bias of his mind, he is evidently an artist of original power, who will think and see for himself. His originality is carried to the verge of caricature in the picture of "Benedick and Beatrice," which no one could for a moment receive as a true rendering of Shakespeare's rare and thoroughbred lovers.

Mr. Arthur Hughes is a painter whose performance fully sustains his early promise. A refined and almost feminine sensibility, while it renders him alive to all impressions of beauty, tends also to lessen his appreciation of the force and character which are everywhere co-existent with it. While looking at his work we cannot help longing for ever so small a portion of the vigour and strength which are so remarkably displayed by John Phillip. But each man must work according to his nature; and we have reason to be grateful to Mr. Hughes for so thoroughly conscientious a picture as that by which he has illustrated George Herbert's life—"Then by a sunbeam I will climb to thee" (483). Mr. Hughes has painted nothing better than the figure of that old prize specimen of the agricultural labourer. One or two of his fellows may be seen in every country church in England—men who have lived through a miserable life of ill-paid toil to attain at length the noble inheritance of rheumatism and parish relief. Beautiful is the contrast offered by the unconscious children playing with the sunbeam, heedless of the sermon

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and unlearned in the affectation of listening to it. We have all seen what Mr. Hughes has here set before us; the greatest compliment we can offer him is to assure him that his work raises thoughts of graver import than the execution of his excellent picture was perhaps intended to suggest.

Mr. Crowe is another rising painter who has established by his pictures in the present Exhibition a reputation for careful study as well as for good painting. The larger of his two pictures illustrates an important act of Luther's life—the posting of his theses on the church-door of Wittenberg. The picture is not a very striking work of art, but it is better—a very careful one, and full of promise of greater things to come from the man who could so conceive and paint some of the better heads in the composition. The only unsatisfactory figures are those of Luther himself—who appears too old, and who, it has been said, is wrongly represented in his Reformer's dress, instead of the simple garb of a monk of St. Augustine, which he wore at this period of his life—and of the lady in front of the picture, who could hardly have walked with so undisturbed a gait in the midst of the tumult and excitement around her. The head and figure of Tetzel are admirable in character and expression; so are those of nearly all the subordinate characters in the picture. The production of so good a work argues the possession of rare ability; and we are not, therefore, surprised to note in this artist's smaller picture of "Dean Swift looking at a Lock of Stella's Hair" (594) one of the best works in the Exhibition. The character of Swift is brought before us in its best aspect, and the natural way in which the action is represented is the result of great art.

Mr. Hodgson has produced an excellent picture in "Elizabeth at Purfleet" (512), a picture well worth more serious attention than its quiet colouring and unforced effect are likely to command. Each of the figures is in itself a study—from the queen herself to the least of her attendants. For correctness of costume and good taste in its disposition it is perhaps unequalled in the Exhibition. The ships are worth careful examination from all who desire to know what sort of fleet sailed down the Thames to meet the Great Armada. We cannot too heartily commend this picture to the attention of all who derive interest and pleasure from a careful illustration of one of the most dramatic incidents in our history.

ART NOTES.

MESSRS. SOTHEBY, WILKINSON, AND HODGE will sell by auction on the 1st of June the magnificent collection of objects of art and virtu, illuminated and other manuscripts, of M. Guglielmo Libri, the whole forming one of the most remarkable assemblages of monuments of Mediæval and Renaissance art and literature ever submitted to public competition. The catalogue, illustrated with fourteen plates, has been prepared, under M. Libri's own superintendence, by Mr. John Bohn, whose valuable catalogues of M. Libri's library, sold by auction by the same firm within the last few years, have become works of authority and reference with bibliographers at home and abroad.

AN exhibition has been opened consisting of two of Mr. Holman Hunt's latest and most elaborated pictures—"The After-Glow in Egypt," and "The Sea-King's Peaceful Triumph on London Bridge, March 10, A.D. 1863." With these is exhibited a third picture, by Mr. Robert Martineau—"The Last Day in the Old Home," which is, however, already known as having been exhibited in the International Exhibition in 1862. These pictures are to be seen at 16, Hanover Street, Hanover Square.

MR. THORNYCROFT has been commissioned by her Majesty to execute one of the colossal groups for the base of the testimonial now in course of erection in Hyde Park to the memory of the late Prince Consort. The subject of Mr. Thornycroft's group will be an illustration of "Commerce."

MR. REDGRAVE is preparing a "Catalogue of all the Pictures belonging to the Crown" in the various palaces in England, to be illustrated with photographs.

WE are glad to find Mr. J. H. Markland, whose love of architecture is as strong as it was half a century ago, taking an active part in the restoration of Bath Abbey Church by a sensible proposition of a voluntary shilling subscription for the purpose. Mr. G. Gilbert Scott's estimate of the cost is £18,000, to which the bishop, the rector, the Rev. C. Kemble, Archdeacon Browne, Mr. Markland, and others who attended the preliminary meeting, have at once contributed £2000.

THE NATIONAL GALLERY OF SCOTLAND.—Several interesting additions were made to this gallery last week. They include a beautiful picture, "Francesca di Rimini," painted by Dyce before he left Scotland, and exhibited in Edinburgh in 1837. It is 7 ft. 10 in. long and 4 ft. 10 in. in height, and is regarded as one of the finest specimens of the artist. It was bought by the Royal Scottish Academy from a gentleman in Aberdeenshire for £200—a very low price for the work, the Academy having applied to this purpose the profits made by them from an exhibition of Scottish art held at the time of the Social Science Congress in October. The other pictures added are four fine specimens of the late Rev. John Thomson, the great landscape painter, bequeathed to the gallery, along with a portrait of the artist, by his relative the late Professor Pillans.

M. DESANGES, the French painter, has arrived here, we understand, for the purpose of painting the Conference in full sitting.

ESTERHAZY'S celebrated collection of art-treasures is about to be incorporated with the new Museum of Vienna. It contains about 800 paintings, more particularly Italian (Leonardo, Raffaele, &c.), old Dutch and Spanish masters (10 Murillos alone), and many exquisite sculptures (works by Gottfried Schadow and Tenerain among them), and a great number of engravings and drawings.

ON Friday and Saturday last week Messrs. Christie, Manson, and Wood sold by auction the well-known collection of water-colour drawings and oil-paintings formed by the late Mr. John Mayor Threlfall of Singleton House, near Manchester. Amongst the former, lot 40. W. Hunt:—A Bird's Nest and Apple-blossoms, true to Nature, sold for 162 guineas; 66. By the same—Interior of a Barn, exhibited at the International, 1862, for 210 guineas; 41. Copley Fielding:—Fairlight Down, looking seaward, for 115 guineas; 61. By the same:—The same subject, more elaborately handled, for 210 guineas; 45. Clarkson Stanfield, R.A.:—Portsmouth Harbour, for 105 guineas; 64. E. Duncan:—"Gathering Holly," Christmas-tide, the well-known Exhibition picture, for 315 guineas; 65. Frederick Tayler:—Her Majesty's Buckhounds, exhibited at the International Exhibition in 1862, for 300 guineas; and 69 and 70. F. W. Topham:—Gleaners Returning, and The Return from Peat Moss, both exhibited pictures, in the best style of the artist, for 450 guineas. Of the oil-paintings, lot 157. R. Ansdell, A.R.A.:—Highland Drovers, £273; 166. F. Stone, A.R.A.:—"The Master is come and calleth for thee," St. John xi. 22, exhibited at the Royal Academy, 1848, and engraved, £147; 168. F. Goodall, R.A.:—"The Post-office: Reading News of the War," £299; 173. John Linnell:—The Woodcutters, £404. 5s.; 174. C. Stanfield, R.A.:—Shipping on the Medway, £414. 5s.; 176. J. Faed:—"Albert Lee visiting Dr. Rochecliffe in his Apartment," £451. 10s.; 180. T. Creswick, R.A.:—"The Road through the Wood," £220; 182. F. Goodall, A.R.A.:—"Bretton Courtship:" Two peasants at a fountain in a woody landscape, £246. 15s.; 185. P. Calderon:—"Man goeth forth to his labour and to his work until the evening," £157. 10s.; 186. J. Linnell, senior:—"The Quoit Players, the well-known picture, £399; 187. D. Roberts, R.A.:—"Interior of a Cathedral, with numerous figures, £336; 190. W. P. Frith, R.A.:—"Madge Wildfire leading Jeannie Deans up the Church," £183. 15s.; 191. R. Ansdell, A.R.A.:—"The Highland Bothy, £252; 193. F. Danby, A.R.A.:—"A Grand Classical Bay Scene, with Cupids Sporting, and Nymphs in the foreground, £351. 15s.; 194. F. Goodall, A.R.A.:—"Cranmer at the Traitor's Gate, exhibited at the Royal Academy in 1856, and since engraved by E. Goodall, £703. 10s.; 196. J. Linnell:—"The Disobedient Prophet," exhibited at the Royal Academy in 1854, and at the Paris Exhibition, £997. 10s. The total amount realised by the 196 oil-paintings was £10,573. 8s. 6d.; that of the 70 drawings on the preceding day £5013. 7s. 6d.; in all £15,586. 11s.

MUSIC.

"ROBERT LE DIABLE" AT COVENT GARDEN.

WE English people are too sober and rational, too far removed from the feeble sentimentalities of our neighbours, to care about showing much emotion when a great man dies. In Paris the opera-house symbolizes its gratitude to the dead genius by a solemn crowning of his bust with wreaths of *immortelles* to the strains of grave music. We go on playing his masterpieces night after night, but do not think it worth while to sound so much as a dead march in token of our

homage. Well, this is our way; and it perhaps may not be a bad way. Let us hope that our feelings are proportionately deeper than those of our "volatile" neighbours, as they are certainly less demonstrative.

In no way, certainly, could one be made to feel more sharply what the world loses when it loses a great man than by listening to his three masterpieces as played within the limits of a single week at Covent Garden. The "Huguenots" and the "Prophète" represent Meyerbeer as he has been best known to our generation in England. "Robert" carries us back to Paris in 1834; and, if we try to listen to it as if we had never heard it before, we can fancy how strangely it must have excited ears which till then had scarcely heard a "grand" opera. "Guillaume Tell" had been the only piece in like form theretofore produced, and the differences in the styles of the two works are a hundred times more salient than the similarities of their structure. "Robert," keeping its old *prestige* as the first of Meyerbeer's *great* series, used to be spoken of till lately as his master-work. But, now that the fresh interest of its late revival has subsided, it has become clear that the "Huguenots" is to be the piece by which, in England at least, we shall best recollect him. The story of "Robert" is a good specimen of stage construction, but the play is a very dreary one. The supernaturalism of the plot has had the usual effect of destroying our interest in the characters, and the resurrectionist odour of the ballet scene infects the whole piece with its noisomeness. The sensationalism of the present hour, at which we are all crying out so loudly, has not reached a worse pitch of ghastliness than that of this scene. A ballet, in the modern sense of a series of acrobatic movements by a party of young women in a state of semi-nudity, is never an ennobling exhibition; but a ballet of dead nuns, "*al pianto eterno condannate*," dance they never so deftly, is a climax of monstrosity. Only the enchanting music of Meyerbeer could atone for the grossness of the idea, and even that is but half a compensation, for his music would probably have been quite as lovely if it had illustrated a less repulsive subject.

The execution of the opera at Covent Garden is more than satisfactory. The orchestra, which is, after all, the most important element of the cast, plays with the same incomparable fire, spirit, and delicacy which have made the accompaniments of the "Huguenots" and the "Prophète" as precious to our ears as great symphonies. The chorus is but very slightly below the usual standard of exactness, and in tone is as good as ever. Madame Lagrue, who unites more than any singer of late years the freedom and breath of the Italian style with an earnestness quite German, finds *Alice* a character just suited to her. Though only half recovered from an indisposition which had almost disabled her on the previous night's performance of the "Huguenots," she sang magnificently, and acted with all the force and dignity which one expected her to show in the character. The only blemish in her singing worth mentioning was an indiscreetly embellished reading of the second verse of her most popular air "Nel lasciar la Normandia." Some music bears and even demands this kind of ornament, and to complain of the exercise of such a license is mere pedantry; but Meyerbeer is, of all composers, the one who marks down most exactly just what he desires his singers to do. *Ad libitum* embroidery of his melodies, and especially embroidery in the Rossinian style, was a thing he never counted on. Signor Attri, who took Herr Schmidt's place, was a quite satisfactory though not remarkably great *Bertram*, and M. Naudin found a congenial part in *Robert*. In default of a tenor singer of the highest capabilities, the many good points of M. Naudin make him a most valuable *tenore assoluto*. The substantial strength of the cast was well shown in the concerted music. The unaccompanied trio in the scene before the cross is a piece not easy to sing at all and very difficult to sing well. Mdlle. Lagrue with her two colleagues accomplished it, nevertheless, without the smallest shade of a fall in pitch. The music of the vault-scene, which follows this, produced all its accustomed effect Grotesque and hideous as is the main idea, one cannot but marvel at the power which Meyerbeer has thrown into its realization. How wonderfully the supernaturalism of the scene is given in that strange opening passage for the bassoon—a sort of grunting of demons, unmistakably Tartarean! It is this prelude, no doubt, that helps to make the music of the orgy seem by contrast so strangely exhilarating. As for the "fascination" dance, was ever any thing more seductively piquant than its first

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strain, or more voluptuously captivating than its second? What subtle mastery of effect is here, and what a power of concentration, fusing the suggestions of a pregnant fancy into a complete unity of result! And, again, as shown on a larger scale, how unfailing is the great composer's sense of proportion! Brilliant and captivating as is this music of the fourth act, there is yet an advance in interest from it to the magnificent appeal of the princess in the next act ("Roberto, oh! tu che adori"), and, again, another step from this to the final struggle between the heavenly and the infernal powers. The great trio in that scene should alone put the seal of immortality on the name of Meyerbeer. The grand effect of the chorus of invisible spirits echoing the hymn of the people in token of the ultimate triumph of the powers of goodness reminds us of what we now may have lost in Meyerbeer not having given us an oratorio before he died. The deep-lying element of solemnity in his nature would probably have made itself felt to grand purpose in directly sacred work. With the self-distrust usually found in a poetic nature, he seems to have abstained partly because he felt that any work of his in this kind would be overshadowed by the monuments of Mendelssohn's genius. He leaves behind him, it is true, a Biblical drama, "Judith;" and it is, at any rate, fruitless to speculate on what might have been. Best to say, in the words of one of the hymns which saluted the march of his body towards his grave—

"Was Gott thut, das ist wohl gethan."

R. B. L.

MUSICAL NOTES.

THE case of the street musicians and their enemies is to be deliberated upon by the legislature on the 8th June, when Mr. Bass will move the second reading of his bill for facilitating the process of making a grinding organ move on. We hope the House will not forget that there are other people to be considered in this matter besides Mr. Babbage and his fellow-victims. The street bands to be seen performing at the door of public-houses in "low" neighbourhoods are about the only innocent public enjoyment within the reach of the poor folk who live in these places. As one walks through a Drury Lane court one may see some hundreds of people enlivened by a harp, fiddle, and cornet playing the airs out of the opera of the season, the old people listening at their doors, and the young ones having an *al fresco* dance upon the pavement. This side of the matter should be fairly considered. People should recollect, too, that restrictive legislation almost always does more than it is meant to do. It was probably to the Licensing Act of George II. more than to any other single cause that was due the decay of popular music in the last half of the last century. That stupid statute was intended to stop people from getting tipsy, but, by also stopping the pleasant practice of having singing and music in the little inns all over the country it almost extinguished the popular taste for melody.

HERR ERNST's concert on the 30th inst. (one of the Monday Popular series) should furnish an evening's music of more than ordinary interest. The great violinist, though not sufficiently recovered from his severe illness to be able to play in public, has been occupying himself in composition, and has lately finished a new quartett, which will be played on this occasion. Herr Joachim will lead the party, and Mr. Hallé, Madame Goddard, and Mr. Sims Reeves will also contribute their services. The pleasure of hearing good music is not a little increased by the sight of so much ready and generous co-operation in the good end of helping a great brother artist.

MADemoiselle SINICO, a new soprano, appeared for the first time on Tuesday last at Her Majesty's Theatre in the character of the *Traviata*. It is satisfactory to find that the amount of public favour enjoyed by this opera is now little more than is commensurate with its deserts. Nothing but the zest naturally given by an "improper" subject could have saved so poor a production from entire obscurity. "Faust" has appeared almost simultaneously at both houses. Of Mdlle. Lucca's *Marguerite* we must speak next week. The splendid cast of Her Majesty's Theatre remains substantially the same as last year.

THE performance of "Samson" by the Sacred Harmonic Society on the 27th is announced as the last concert of the Society for the season. The series of works offered to the subscribers this year has been scarcely up to the usual level of interest, but the production of this noble work will go some way towards redeeming the character of a rather dull season.

HERR WIENIAWSKI led the quartetts at the Popular Concert on Monday last, and at the Musical Union Matinée of Tuesday. He was cordially welcomed by both audiences; few, perhaps, of the first recollecting—it is now so long ago—that it was Herr Wieniawski who played first fiddle at the first of the long series of 152 concerts to which this most successful of musical enterprises has extended.

MR. BENEDICT has lately finished a new operetta called "The Brides of Song," which will be sung at Madame Vinning's Matinée on Monday, and (in part) at Mr. Benedict's own concert on June 20th. A handy thematic summary of the work is given in the *Orchestra* for last week.

HERR ALFRED JAEHL was the pianist at the last Musical Union Matinée. Every time we hear this gentleman strengthens the impression that there is no greater playing of great music to be heard than his. His touch, to mention only one quality, is marvellous for its combined force and delicacy, and for its power of making the instrument sing.

A GREAT choral festival of 5000 voices will be held at the Crystal Palace on the 15th of June, under the direction of Mr. G. W. Martin. Some of the part-songs have four trebles, and will be sung by 1000 trebles to a part. It has been ascertained that in no part of the world has so large a choir been brought together under one conductor.

MESSRS. HURST AND BLACKETT announce Mr. Lumley's "Reminiscences of the Opera" as just ready.

MESSRS. LOCKWOOD & Co. have just published an elaborate work on fugue and counterpoint, under the title of "The True Science of Music: being a New Exposition of the Laws of Melody and Harmony, by D. C. Hewitt."

A NEW tenor phenomenon has been discovered, according to the *Art Musical*, in the person of a *ci-devant* Zouave in the African army, who, within one-half year's tuition, has made such wonderful progress that he will soon make his *début* before the great world. His name is Cazaux.

MUSIC FOR NEXT WEEK.

MAY 23rd to 28th.

MONDAY.—Popular Concert, (Herr Joachim's first appearance), St. James's Hall, 8 p.m.

THURSDAY.—Mr. Leslie's Choir, St. James's Hall, 8 p.m.

FRIDAY.—"Samson," by Sacred Harmonic Society, Exeter Hall, 8 p.m.

OPERAS:—

COVENT GARDEN.
HER MAJESTY'S.

THE DRAMA.

MR. TOM TAYLOR'S NEW "MORALITY," AND THE "MAID OF HONOUR."

"SENSE and Sensation: a Morality," the production of which, at the Olympic, was deferred from Christmas, was brought out on Monday evening. As the title implies, this latest work of Mr. Tom Taylor's is an attack upon the taste of the time for so-called "sensation" entertainments, the subject being widened so as to include within its limits a large number of other follies and vices. The general scope and treatment of the piece are similar to the "Revue," of which so much is made by the Parisian dramatists; but it lacks the life and pointedness of its French prototype. A very large portion of the didactics in which the author indulges against the theatrical taste of the public appears to us to come from him with ill-grace. It strikes us as being something very like unreasonableness in him to complain of the condition of the English stage at a moment when a sensation drama of his own is enjoying such an enormous success as the "Ticket-of-Leave Man," played for the 302nd time on Monday evening. The extraordinary favour bestowed by the public on this very piece appears to us to be a complete refutation of the assumption that the English stage is neglected, and the patronage of the public accorded to foreigners who have despoiled the English actors of their rights. We deny that English actors have any just complaint on this ground. Taste is cosmopolitan, and we do not hesitate to say that the art which can exist only under the shield of a protective system is worthless and unworthy of existence. We are perfectly clear, also, that the English actor will gain nothing by attempting to drown the voice of his foreign rival; let him be content to render himself praiseworthy, and assuredly the praise will be ready for him whenever he has fairly earned it. The Olympic company, meantime, may, we think, be satisfied with

the recognition of their talents implied in the three-hundred-and-odd nights' run of the "Ticket-of-Leave Man;" undue patronage cannot have affected them in an injurious sense.

The scheme of the new "Morality" is a large one, and, as far as it is worked out, is displayed in a prologue and five scenes. *King Sense*, an abdicated monarch, is living in retirement with his seven daughters (representing the cardinal virtues) in Ultima Thule. The young ladies are sent by their father to counteract the influences exercised by *Sultan Sensation* and his seven sons, each of whom represents one of the cardinal sins. Mr. Tom Taylor appears to have taken no pains to sustain the characters of his personages, who assume all sorts of shapes, bewilder the audience, and hopelessly envelope in fog the moral which, it may be supposed, they were intended to work out. The seven Virtues appear as teachers and scholars at the "Pye-Cruste Collegiate Institution," a grand seminary at which starvation and intellectual cramming are the chief characteristics of the curriculum. From this scientifically-ordered establishment *Faith* elopes with *Pride*, in the guise of a footman, *Hope* with *Luxury*, as a music-master, and *Charity* with *Anger*, as "Dr. Bitters, Medical Referee, Professor of Physiology, Biology, and Kine-Mathematics to the Institution." Intemperate advocacy of temperance is satirized in a scene between *Temperance*, as "Miss Hornblower, a Lady with a Mission," and *Anger*, as "Boanerges Howlet, a Platform-lamp from Exeter Hall." But the want of distinct handling exhibited by the author landed him in an unforeseen dilemma: many of the audience thought that, instead of lashing the frothy temperance-orators of Exeter Hall, he was falling foul of the virtue intemperately advocated by them; and they expressed in very decided hisses the impression made upon their mind. Another scene, representing a West-end milliner's, where five of the Virtues play the parts of "victims offered up to La Mode and La Mort," fared no better; and on Tuesday evening both scenes were cut out of the piece. The most important scene of all is the last, representing the stage of an English theatre under a "sensation" manager, who is intended to be immediately recognisable, and who, it seems to us, may justly complain of the portrait. The rehearsal of a new "sensation drama," entitled "The Earthquake of Lisbon," is brought to an untimely end by the characters refusing to risk their lives and limbs to produce the required "effects," and a performance of Shakespeare's "Othello," all the characters speaking their parts in Anglo-French, is substituted as the next best performance to attract the British public. The whole concludes with the display of one of those splendid scenes which used, as a matter of course, to form the climax of all Christmas and Easter extravaganzas. Nearly the entire company have parts in the piece; and all act with spirit and finish. In respect to the mounting and scenic embellishment of the piece, the warmest praise is due to the management for the taste which is visible in every detail.

At the Strand, also on Monday evening, a neat little comedietta by Mr. J. P. Wooler was produced with perfect success. It is, in scope, like the thousand-and-one pieces of elegant intrigue forming the *répertoires* of the Spanish and French stages, of which so many specimens found their way to the boards of the Olympic in the days of Madame Vestris. The present piece, announced as "original," is entitled "The Maid of Honour," and is supposed to represent some love-passages in the life of a certain *Olympia*, *Duchess of Carrara* (played by Miss Kate Carson), who is wooed by the *Prince of Savoy*, but has given her heart to one who represents himself to be the Prince's Envoy. In attendance on her is her cousin, *Giulia*, *Countess D'Estrella*, the "maid of honour," who partly fathoms the Duchess's love-secret, and, for the purpose of bringing the adventure to a happy issue, disguises herself as the *Prince of Savoy*, and mischievously relinquishes his claim in favour of the preferred Envoy. There is a great deal of pleasant mystification heaped by the gay young maid of honour on both the *Duchess* and the Envoy; on the clearing up of which it appears that the latter is the Prince of Savoy in *propria persona*, who has presented himself under this disguise with the view of ascertaining the actual state of the Duchess's feelings with regard to the proposed union. Miss Ada Swanborough, as the "Maid of Honour," has never appeared to greater advantage than in this part, in which she plays with a gaiety and enjoyment reflected upon the audience. The piece is neatly written, like all Mr. Wooler's works, and it is placed upon the stage with a richness and elegance worthy of the old reputation of the Strand.

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THE READER.

21 MAY, 1864.

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From the *Times*, Sept. 3, 1863.

"THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION.—In the Mathematical Section yesterday, a large number of papers were read, but only one was of any general interest. It was by Mr. H. Swan, and gave an account of a new invention in portrait-taking. By a peculiar arrangement of two rectangular prisms, the appearance of a perfectly solid figure is given to a picture and portraits which were unsatisfactory on a flat surface, have so much expression thrown into them by this invention, as to become quite pleasing and truthful."

From the *Standard*, Sept. 29, 1863.

"The casket portrait is a still further and more effective development of the photographic process than has yet been discovered—indeed, as far as truly realistic portraiture is desired, this method, which has been discovered by Mr. Swan, must meet the requirements of the most exacting in that style of individual representation. In that entirely new and original adaptation of optical illusion to the ordinary portraits taken by the photographer, the head and features of the sitter have all the distinctness and projection of a bust in marble, with the advantage of preserving the natural tints of the countenance in the most life-like manner."

From the *Illustrated London News*, Oct. 3, 1863.

"A solid image of the sitter's head is seen, looking with startling reality from the centre of a small cube of crystal, every feature standing out in as perfect relief as though chiselled by the hands of fairy sculptors. . . . Most people are fond of looking in the glass, but this portable and indelible spectrum, reflecting no mere fleeting image, but containing the actual, palpable form of humanity, is certainly a most startling novelty. Natural science is daily explaining illusions which formerly gained the credit of being supernatural. This is an age less given to denying the existence of phenomena than to demonstrate the why and the wherefore of their existence. How would it be if, after all, the appearance in Zadkiel's magic crystal, at which we have all been laughing so much lately, had some photographic foundation, and the 'man in armour,' and 'lady in the pink dress,' were only 'casket or crystal cube miniatures'?"

From the *Intellectual Observer* for November, 1863.

The effect of the new process is to exhibit the subject of the portraiture with life-like verisimilitude, and in natural relief. You take up a small case, and look through what appears to be a little window, and there stands or sits before you, in a pleasantly-lighted chamber, a marvellous effigy of a lady or gentleman, as the case may be. The projection of the nose, the moulding of the lips, and all the gradations of contour, are as distinct as if an able sculptor had exercised his skill; but the hair and the flesh are of their proper tint, and the whole thing has a singularly vital and comfortable look. Indeed, were it not for the reduction in size, it would be difficult to avoid the belief that an actual man or woman, in ordinary dress, and with characteristic expression, was presented to your eye. In addition to portraits destined for morocco cases, and of ordinary miniature sizes, much smaller ones are taken and mounted in exceedingly pretty little caskets of fine gold. These form as elegant little shrines as any lover could wish to receive the effigy of his mistress, and far surpass any other mode yet devised of connecting portraiture with ornamental jewellery."

From the *London Review*, August 29, 1863.

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CLASSES.—A CONFERENCE for the discussion of this subject is convened to be held at the House of the Society of Arts on THURSDAY and FRIDAY, the 26th and 27th MAY, at 11.30 each day. Persons interested in the subject and desirous of attending, are requested to communicate with the Secretary.

By Order, P. LE NEVE FOSTER.
SOCIETY OF ARTS, John Street, Adelphi, London, W.C.
10th May, 1864.

GREAT FIRE IN BRITISH GUIANA.

The valuable Library, Museum, and Scientific Collections of the Agricultural and Commercial Society of British Guiana, formed during the last twenty years at a cost of more than £10,000, having been totally destroyed, together with a large portion of the city of Georgetown, in the disastrous fire of Sunday, the 3rd of April, 1864; an earnest APPEAL for assistance in restoring this valuable institution is made to all who are directly or indirectly interested either in the colony of British Guiana or in the general promotion of such objects as the Society has for so many years so successfully forwarded.

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The Council of the Royal Dramatic College beg to apprise the public that all subscriptions intended for the endowment of the Shakespeare School should be paid only to the Master, New Theatre Royal, Adelphi, or to Messrs. Coutts, bankers, Strand, London.

Noblemen, gentlemen, and others, interested in carrying out this design, are requested to communicate with the undersigned.

BENJAMIN WEBSTER, Master.

New Theatre Royal, Adelphi, May, 1864.

THE FAMILY OF THE LATE MR.

WILLIAM SHOBERL.—An appeal is respectfully made to the generous sympathy of the press, and of the publishing, bookselling, and stationery trades, on behalf of the widow and three unmarried daughters of the late Mr. William Shoberl, by whose recent death they are left totally unprotected. Mr. Shoberl was for many years connected with the late Mr. Henry Colburn, the eminent publisher, of Great Marlborough Street, during which period he arranged the Fairfax papers, and other similar collections, for publication. He was afterwards in business for himself in the same thoroughfare. Subscriptions in aid of Mrs. Shoberl's endeavour to obtain a means of living for herself and daughters will be received at the

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6. Will produce the same initial velocity of projectile with a shorter length of barrel.
7. In projectiles of the nature of explosive shells, Gun Cotton has the advantage of breaking the shell more equally into much more numerous pieces than gunpowder.
8. When used in shells instead of gunpowder, one-third of the weight of the latter produces double the explosive force.

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9. A charge of Gun Cotton of given size exerts double the explosive force of gunpowder.
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17. Its peculiar localized action enables the engineer to destroy bridges and palisades, and to remove every kind of obstacle with great facility.
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19. For the same purpose. From its lightness it has the advantage of keeping afloat the water-tight case in which it is contained, while gunpowder sinks it to the bottom.

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Artillerists who prefer to manufacture their own cartridges, may make special arrangements with the patentee through Messrs. PRENTICE & Co.

Stowmarket, March 10, 1864.

THE READER.

21 MAY, 1864.

REMOVAL.—Messrs. ALEX and JONES, Surgeon-Dentists, have REMOVED their Practice to 53, BROOK STREET, Grosvenor Square, in consequence of their Premises, 31, New Bridge Street, being required by the London, Chatham, and Dover Railway.

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CAUTION.—PIANOS.—In the present disturbed state of the pianoforte trade consequent upon recent revelations, a competent adviser, in selecting an instrument, has become a necessary safeguard against imposition. Mr. LIMPUS, Organist of St. Michael's, Cornhill, having twenty-five years' experience, offers assistance and advice to intending purchasers. A Fee of One Guinea only charged. Address, Shrewsbury House, Isleworth, London.

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